

## Getting Started with MetaLib

### What is MetaLib?

**MetaLib is a search tool that allows you to:**

- find and link to information resources such as databases, library catalogs, and search engines.
- search across different resources at the same time
- save records from multiple databases then email them or print them out.

*For best results: use Internet Explorer 6.0, Firefox 3.0 or Netscape 7.0 or higher.*

### Accessing MetaLib

You will be able to access MetaLib in the same way you have always accessed KYVL resources. Simply click on the "Find Books, Articles and More" link on the KYVL homepage.

When accessing KYVL from your school or library, you will be sent directly to KYVL resources. If you are accessing KYVL from home, you will need to log in using the KYVL username and password.

### The New KYVL Resources Page

When you choose the "Find Books, Articles and More" link on the KYVL site, you'll notice that our search page has changed. You can now access all of KYVL's resources from this page, including our collection of research databases (via MetaLib or vendor interfaces), the Kentuckiana Digital Library. You can even search library catalogs throughout Kentucky.

**To search KYVL research databases using the MetaLib QuickSearch option**, simply type your search terms into the search box at the top of the page. If you'd like to use another MetaLib search option, follow the "Advanced search options" link just below the search box.

**To access any KYVL resource via the vendor's interface**, choose one of the vendor logos or the "Find a Database" link.

### Choosing a Search Option

**KYVL's MetaLib offers three different options for searching KYVL resources.**

- 1. QuickSearch** - MetaLib's default and easiest search option. Allows users to:
  - Choose a QuickSet for a broad subject area
  - Search a collection of preselected subject resources.
- 2. Find a Database** - For users who want to search a specific resource. Allows users to:
  - Search for relevant databases by Titles, Keywords or Subjects
  - Browse an A-Z list of all KYVL's databases.
  - Link to and search any database via the vendor's interface
  - Access resources not yet searchable in MetaLib (i.e: Grolier encyclopedias)
- 3. CrossSearch** - Our recommended option for advanced users. Allows users to:
  - Search preselected resources for a specific subject area or
  - Choose their own custom group of resources (up to 10 per search).

