

# IDEAS for KYVL Video

***Look what's on KYVL for use in YOUR classroom!!***

## **Reasons to Use KYVL for Research**

- The KYVL website is open to everyone. The commercial databases are available in all Kentucky public schools, public universities and colleges, and public libraries. You can also get a login to use at home.
- Using KYVL databases for research provides access to over 40 licensed index, abstract and full-text databases.
  - Over 76,000 indexed publications containing:
    - Over 28,000 full-text resources
    - 557,016 images and
    - almost 2000 maps
- KYVL must be the place for research. Look at these search numbers!
  - Since KYVL's launch in November 1999, the licensed databases have supported 57.7 million searches.
    - July 2005 through June 2006 → 18.1 million searches
- Students can use the coolest, cutting-edge research technology to research just about anything.
  - Use Google Earth to Visualize a Virtual World Tour with content from these magazines: Frommer's, TravelAmerica, Travel Agent, Consumer Reports Travel, Letter, Cruise Travel
  - Getting Ready for a Programming Contest? Use KYVL to get full text access to these journals: Dr. Dobb's Journal, Transactions of the ACM, Game Developer, Computer Gaming World, Computer Graphics World

**Research Rocket** <http://www.kyvl.org/html/kids/portal.html>

The KYVL for Kids Research Portal teaches kids [grades K-5] about research and information literacy in a fun way. The Portal has two primary components: the Research Rocket, and the Research Frontier.

Choosing "Research Rocket" from the Portal entrance takes you to an interactive summary of the research process. Research Rocket contains useful resources for each major step. For example, Step 4 "Use the Information" contains eight different web pages to help students evaluate and organize the information they have found in the previous steps. Also included is a Teacher's Toolbox with printable items for offline use.

Research Frontier. This is a gateway to the various commercial databases available through KYVL, emphasizing resources most appropriate for kids.

If a user is at a public school or another IP authenticated site, choosing a “planet” takes the user to an interface provided by the commercial vendor. When accessing from home, users are prompted for a login which can be obtained from the school library staff.

Go to [www.kyvl.org](http://www.kyvl.org), select the Kids link, and meet Space Dog.

## **How to Do Research tutorial** <http://www.kyvl.org/html/tutorial/research/>

Wondering how to tackle that research paper? How do you cite articles, websites, etc. in APA or MLA style?

A few years ago, it was estimated that less than 15% of the world's information is digitized. The vast majority of the world's information is available in print-only, much of it published in books. While the Web may be a great source of current information, books are either the best source and/or the only source of other types of information. The key is to know when to search for a book. Learn how with this tutorial!

Going to the web for your research? No problem. Use the tutorial to learn how to create the best search strategies. What's Boolean searching? Here is an example: The Boolean operator "**not**" narrows a search by excluding certain words. *For example*, the search term "*insecticides not DDT*" would retrieve only those documents on the subject of insecticides that excludes the term "DDT." Combining two different operators (e.g. "*endangered and species not owl*") will narrow your search even further since both of the words "*endangered*" and "*species*" would have to be present, while excluding documents in which the word "*owl*" occurs.

Not all "information" is authoritative, objective, reliable, or timely. You need to be critical of the information you find. Read through the “Evaluating Information” section for tips on how to choose the best sources from the web.

With this tutorial, you can jump right to the section you need – from research basics, to how to find books, search the web, evaluate what you find, and how to cite your sources. Go to [www.kyvl.org](http://www.kyvl.org) and select the How to Do Research link.

## **Novelist**

*Novelist* is an electronic readers' advisory resource that assists fiction readers in finding new authors and titles. It includes 90,000 full text reviews, over 36,000 subject headings and a complete spectrum of searching options, including searching by title, by author or simply by describing pertinent plot details.

Use *Novelist* to find fiction books that interest you. Match your age and reading level to subjects that you want read about. With *Novelist*, you can search by subject, browse title lists by genre, find new titles with Author Read-alikes or use awards/honors listings. Delve into the Explore Fiction area and find fiction books on cyberpunk, virtual reality, space opera, hard science fiction, androids/cyborgs/robots and technothrillers, just to name a few categories.

Go to [www.kyvl.org](http://www.kyvl.org) and select the K12 Schools link, then choose the link right for you. Select the *Novelist* link from there.

## **Kentuckiana Digital Library** <http://kdl.kyvl.org/>

The Kentuckiana Digital Library is built to enhance scholarship, research and lifelong learning through the establishment of access to shared digital archival collections in the state of Kentucky. Materials contained in Kentuckiana Digital Library have a strong Kentucky orientation. They also have broad appeal on geographic, content and study levels. The materials are unique and generally, not widely available. The digital library's collections are divided into three parts: archival finding aids, electronic text collection, and an oral history collection.

Users can find the text [The Life of James Francis Leonard : the first practical sound-reader of the Morse alphabet](#) by John Wilson Townsend [c1908]] or a picture from 1889 of the first electric streetcar in Lexington. Look for pictures of your city courthouse or downtown grocery store from a time even before your grandparents were born! Go to [www.kyvl.org](http://www.kyvl.org) and select the Kentuckiana Digital Library link.

## **Virtual Reference Desk** <http://www.kyvl.org/html/ref/ref.shtml>

Don't know where to start with a topic or new subject? Try KYVL's Virtual Reference Desk. These pages are a collection of links to web-based, authoritative sources of reliable information. They have been used to answer a question received at the KYVL Reference Desk or support the information needs of Kentucky Virtual University students or Kentuckians.

Sources are organized under 17 major subject areas that are based on the Library of Congress Classification scheme. KYVL's Virtual Reference Desk pages are designed and maintained by volunteer subject experts throughout the state of Kentucky.

Think of these pages as webliographies created by smart people who know their subject and have already done the evaluation of the sources. Need some information? Try this resource first! Go to [www.kyvl.org](http://www.kyvl.org) and select the Virtual Reference Desk link.

## **Kentucky Department of Education, Program of Studies—Inquiry & KYVL**

Got inquiry?

Inquiry should be embedded within each subject area you study.

Inquiry includes these activities:

- Self-selecting topics
- Formulating authentic questions
- Gathering information
- Research resources
- Crafting experiments
- Observing
- Interviewing
- Evaluating information

Analyzing and synthesizing data  
Communicating findings and conclusions

Inquiry integrates reading, writing, research, creative and critical thinking, logic, and allows students to communicate their findings through a “product.”

For more information about the Program of Studies, Inquiry and Research, go to <http://www.education.ky.gov/users/jwyatt/POS/POS.pdf>

KYVL is a gold mine for inquiry projects. The Kentuckiana Digital Library includes unique historical pictures and texts. The many KYVL databases contain thousands of magazine and scholarly articles. The Virtual Reference Desk provides links to authoritative websites. For all of these and more, go to <http://www.kyvl.org>

For example, you could research educational attainment and life satisfaction in EBSCO’s Academic Search Premier database. You could then compare what you find to statistics about access to education and educational attainment using the Kentucky Statistics: Education page at <http://www.kyvl.org/html/gia/saeducation.shtml>. How does educational access and attainment make a difference in the lives of Kentuckians?

Another example of inquiry would be to take an historical photographic collection and annotate the photographs by researching the people and objects pictured. You could also use the photographs to create a mini-film about that time and place in Kentucky history.