



# Tech Tips



**Encyclopedia Britannica** has excellent ad-free information presented in multiple reading levels.

Go to [www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html) and click on Encyclopedia Britannica Elementary or Encyclopedia Britannica Middle School. Access to Encyclopedia Britannica is available only through the Library website.



You can search the library's online catalog from home, school, or in the library. Use your tablet or mobile device to search wherever you are! Go to: [www.scituate townlibrary.org](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org) and click **Library Catalog**



A book is a book, whether it is in print format or digital format as an e-book. An e-book is NOT the same thing as a website or "Internet source." You use the Internet to get to an e-book, but it's still a book.



Need a **magazine**? Good news! You can find one at the "Virtual" Town Library! Save lots of time!

Use the **Research Databases** to find magazine articles in digital format! Many of these articles were previously published in print format.

While Scituate Town Library can't store all these magazines on the shelves, you can still get to them using the Internet if you go through a library database.



How do you know if the website you're visiting is believable? Accurate? Useful? Ask yourself: who is writing this page? Is it a teacher? A museum?

- Determine good keywords before you start.
- Double check info using more than one source.
- Look to see when a site was last updated.

Usually, sites ending in .gov or .edu contain trustworthy facts.



## 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY RESEARCH

USING LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY AND ONLINE RESOURCES

Scituate Public Schools

### GREAT AMERICANS

Grade 5

Winter/Spring 2014-2015

*Prepared by  
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#### Children's Department

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#### Scituate Town Library

85 Branch Street  
Scituate, MA 02066

781-545-8727

[www.ScituateTownLibrary.org](http://www.ScituateTownLibrary.org)

#### Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9 - 9

Friday & Saturday: 9 - 5

Closed Sunday



## → Getting Started: Before you come to the library

### Using the Online Library Catalog: Keywords & Phrases

*Finding the books you need and getting them*

To use the catalog, go to [www.scituate townlibrary.org](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org) and click on the button that says "Library Catalog."

**Example:** For a project on Davy Crockett, try searching with his name written like this: **Crockett, Davy**

**Example:** To study someone such as an inventor, use simple keywords like this: **inventions** or **inventors**.

Use the online catalog to find your books ahead of time! After entering your keyword or phrase, limit search results using the fields on the left side of the screen. Or try "Advanced Search." See what you discover!

#### HERE'S A TIP:



Did you see exactly which book you want? But the library doesn't have it? Place a hold to reserve your books ahead of time... from school or home! **Make technology work for you!** Place a hold and get what you want. Get what you need! *Delivered to your library!*

Place Hold

## → Dig Deeper: While you are at the library

### Browsing the Shelves & Virtual Shelves: Call Numbers

*Browsing by CALL NUMBER is also a great way to get ideas.*

*Remember like books sit on the shelf next to one another. If you find a book on your topic, look at what is sitting next to it. Chances are there will be other books on your topic nearby.*

*And make sure to check both Children's & Young Adult shelves for books.*

**Call numbers** are like street addresses for books. They help you find where the books are on the shelves.

**Biographies** at the Scituate Town Library are located in **biography sections**, organized by the last name of the person you want to study. Find Young Adult (Middle School) biographies in the adult biography section.

#### HERE'S A TIP:




You can also browse by **Call Number** in the online Library Catalog. Use the "advanced search" function and enter the call number!

## → There's more!

### Reference Books

*a.k.a. Books to use while at the library. Use the photo copier or take notes. These books are always in the library because they can't be checked out.*

**Encyclopedias** are a reliable starting point for any research project:

**World Book Encyclopedia JREF 031 Wor**  (that's call number.)  
**Encyclopedia Britannica (Online)**, access through the library website at [www.scituate townlibrary.org](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org)

**Collected Biographies** (found in the biography section)

*These are a great way to get a quick picture of a person you'd like to study. We have collected biographies of women explorers, presidents, first ladies, inventors and more!*

## → And even more!

### Research Databases... Get Magazines & More!

[www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html)

*Great for finding magazine and special encyclopedia articles, images, audio and video clips.*

- Kids Info Bits
- Biography in Context
- U.S. History in Context
- Encyclopedia Britannica

#### HERE'S A TIP:



You must go through the library's website to get to the databases. Googling won't work!

**Remember:** Database sources are not always websites. You must use the library website to get to databases, but the sources you find by searching a database are not necessarily websites.

## → What else?

### Selected Websites That Might Be Useful...

#### Who has time for random Google searches?

##### Internet Public Library Pathfinders

[www.ipl.org/div/pf](http://www.ipl.org/div/pf)

##### Watch Know Learn

[www.watchknowlearn.org](http://www.watchknowlearn.org)

##### A&E Channel's Biography.com

[www.biography.com](http://www.biography.com)

##### History Channel

[www.historychannel.com](http://www.historychannel.com)

##### National Women's History Museum

[www.nwhm.org/education-resources/](http://www.nwhm.org/education-resources/)

##### Women's History-Library of Congress

[www.womenshistorymonth.gov](http://www.womenshistorymonth.gov)

##### Infoplease

[www.infoplease.com](http://www.infoplease.com)

#### HERE'S A TIP:



Museum websites are great sources of trustworthy information. See if your Great American has a museum dedicated to his/her life.

See Tech Tips on Back Cover!

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