



Research Guide Grade 6 - Ancient Civilization Project

Project Overview (see bookmark)

- 1 Bring your assignment to the library. Skim an encyclopedia or reference book to find your keywords to use for searching.
- 2 Do you need books, magazines, videos?
- 3 Use the Library Catalog to find books; use the databases to find magazine articles; look at reference books and nonfiction DVDs.
- 4 Search for your keywords in the Table of Contents and Index of the books you find. Find more keywords.
- 5 Is the material useful? If not, try searching again with new or different keywords. Go back to the encyclopedias. Ask a librarian or teacher.
- 6 Make sure you have what you need. Reread your assignment!

If you need help, ask a librarian! That's what we're here for!

Getting Started - Keywords!

A good way to start your research is to look at a general or reference book which has information about a lot of different topics. The *World Book* encyclopedia is a good example. Look for **keywords** to use for searching, such as important people, names, and words that historians and scientists use to describe your topic. Use the **keywords** you find to search the Library Catalog for specific books and to search the databases for magazine articles.

Some Helpful Reference Books in Children's Room

JREF 930 ANC	<i>The Ancient World, Volumes 1-5</i>
JREF 930 EXP	<i>Exploring Ancient Civilizations, Volumes 1-11</i>
JREF 930 MCI	<i>Civilizations</i>

Some Helpful Reference Books in Adult Section

REF 930 ENC 1980	<i>Encyclopedia of Ancient Civilizations</i>
REF 930 HIS 1996	<i>Ancient and Medieval World, Volumes 1-2</i>

Browse the shelves. Go to the shelf where the reference 930 books are located in the Children's Room or Adult section and see what you can find there.

Reference books can only be used in the library and cannot be checked out so that they are always available. Photo copy the pages you need.

Nonfiction Books

Nonfiction books contain facts and information. In the library nonfiction books are organized by **topic**. Each topic has its own **Call Number**, based on the Dewey Decimal System.

The books on your topic have the **same Call Number** whether they are found in the Children's Room (J), the Adult Nonfiction section or Reference section. Books with YA in front of the Call Numbers are in the Adult Nonfiction section. Books with REF in front of the call number are in the Reference section.



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Nonfiction Books - Continued

Most of the books you need for this project have Call Numbers in the 900s, specifically in the 930s.

930s	Ancient Celts & Phoenicians
931s	Ancient China
932s	Ancient Egypt
933s	Ancient Israel
934s	Ancient India
935s	Ancient Persia, Babylonia & Mesopotamia
937s	Ancient Rome & Greece
938s	Ancient Greece
939s	Ancient Phoenicians, Nubians & Africa

Browse the shelves. Go to the shelf where your topic Call Numbers are located in the Children's Room or Adult section. Once you find a book on your topic, look to the left and right of the book to find more.

Biographies of Important People

Biographies are books about specific people, and are organized by the last name of the person the biography is about. There is a Biography section in the Children's Room (J Biography) and in the Adult section (Biography) of the Library.

When researching your topic, look for names of important people listed in encyclopedias and reference books. Looking up some of them might provide more information on your topic.

Some Helpful Biographies

J 936 OLI	<i>Attila the Hun</i> by Marilyn Tower Oliver
J BIOGRAPHY CONFUCIUS	<i>Confucius: the golden rule</i> by Russell Freedman
J BIOGRAPHY MOCTEZUMA	<i>Moctezuma</i> by Struen Reid
J BIOGRAPHY CAESAR	<i>Julius Caesar</i> by Samuel Willard Crompton
J BIOGRAPHY CLEOPATRA	<i>Cleopatra: ruler of Egypt</i> by Kerrily Sapet
J BIOGRAPHY HANNIBAL	<i>Hannibal</i> by Robert Green

Nonfiction DVDs

Sometimes the best way to get information is to see it! The nonfiction DVDs are located by the DVD movies. Keep an eye out for documentaries on the History Channel, Discovery Channel and National Geographic Channels at home!

Some Movies Available in our Nonfiction DVDs

Ancient China. Masters of the Wind and Waves

Carthage: A Journey Back in Time

The Celts

reek Accomplishments

The Incas

Mayans & Aztecs, Ancient Lands of the Americas



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Internet

Some Websites to Check Out

National Geographic Kids Page
kids.nationalgeographic.com

PBS NOVA
www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova

PBS
www.pbs.org

The History Channel
www.history.com

The Discovery Channel History Guide
dsc.discovery.com/guides/history/history.html

American Museum of Natural History
www.amnh.org

Carnegie Museum of Natural History
www.carnegiemnh.org

The Food Timeline
www.foodtimeline.org

BBC History
www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient

Odyssey Online
carlos.emory.edu/ODYSSEY

Some Search Engines (like Google, but better)

Kids Click
www.kidsclick.org

Awesome Library
www.awesomelibrary.org

Yahoo Kids
Kids.yahoo.com

Internet Public Library Kidspace
www.ipl.org/div/kidspace

ThinkQuest
www.thinkquest.org/library

Tips on Evaluating a Website

- ✓ Is the information related to your topic?
- ✓ Is the information easy to understand? Is it well written, spelled correctly and clear?
- ✓ Is the information current? When was it written?
- ✓ Can you tell who wrote the information? Are they an expert? Are they from a school or other kind of organization?
- ✓ Do you think the website is biased? Is the website or author selling something to do with this information?
- ✓ Is the website based on fact or opinion? How can you tell?
- ✓ Remember to gather your bibliography information! If you can't find all the information (date, author, etc.), are you sure this site is appropriate for your research?