

# Pathfinder

## Research Papers

**Where to begin:** pick a topic that you will find interesting to research. You will find suggestions for topics in the sources that follow. Identify what you need to learn about the topic because this will help you determine which sources to use – a librarian can help you with this, too. Remember, the earlier that you start, the better chance you will have of gathering materials that you will need.

### Sources for Topics and Background Information

100 Research Topic Guides for Students—*shelved in R808.02 Bor*

100 More Research Topic Guides for Students—*shelved in R808.02 McD*

IssueWeb—*shelved in R808.02 Dia*

CQ Researcher\*—*shelved in R050*

### Databases for Finding Articles in Newspapers, Magazines, Periodicals

Chicago Tribune (online version of newspaper)\*

CQ Researcher\*

InfoTrac General Reference Center\*

InfoTrac Health and Wellness Resource Center\*

World Book Online Reference Center\*

### Statistics

Statistical Abstract of the United States—*shelved in R317.3 or on the web at [www.census.gov/statab/www/](http://www.census.gov/statab/www/)*

Information Please Almanac—*shelved in R317.3*

World Almanac\*—*shelved in R317.3 or available as a database*

### Government Information/Law

Illinois Compiled Statutes—*shelved in R348.773 Ill*

West's Encyclopedia of American Law—*shelved in R348.73 Wes*

Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court—*shelved in R347.73 Oxf*

CQ Weekly Reports—*shelved in R320.973 Con*

United States Government Manual—*shelved in R353 Uni or at [www.gpoaccess.gov/gmanual/](http://www.gpoaccess.gov/gmanual/)*

CQ Almanac Plus—*shelved in R320.973 Con*

### Other Reference Tools

American Decades—*R909.82*

Biography Index—*shelved in R920*

Dictionary of the Social Sciences—*shelved in R300.3 Dic*

Encyclopedia of World Biography—*shelved in R920 Enc*

Specialized reference books are available for certain topics. Be sure to ask the librarian for help in finding them.

\*These databases are available from home through the library's website at [www.westchesterpl.org](http://www.westchesterpl.org)