

## **Online Encyclopedias (Part 2 of 2)**

### **Why Do We Use Encyclopedias?**

<i>Skills Category</i>	Searching Online Encyclopedias
<i>Grade Level</i>	3rd
<i>Time Required</i>	15 minutes
<i>Objectives</i>	Students will increase their understanding of online encyclopedia searches.
<i>Materials Needed</i>	Projector
<i>Preparation</i>	Become familiar with the searches before you present this lesson.
<i>Procedure</i>	<p>1. <u>Review</u></p> <p>“Did any of you show your parents how to use the World Book Online Encyclopedia? What did you search for?”</p> <p>Hopefully, you will have some responses. If not, proceed with the lesson.</p> <p>2. <u>Lesson</u></p> <p>“How many of you use Google or Wikipedia to find things on the computer? Well, I do too. But sometimes those searches are so frustrating! Let’s find out why an encyclopedia search is a great search choice.”</p> <p>Let’s do a research experiment on <b>giraffes</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Let’s <b>Google</b> giraffes. How many search results did we get? Wow, that’s too many for me!</li><li>• Let’s look at the giraffe article in <b>Wikipedia</b>? (type Wikipedia giraffe in search box) Wow, some of these words are really difficult. This is not elementary level material.”</li></ul>

### 3. World Book Kids Demonstration

“Now, let’s do an online encyclopedia search for giraffes.

Let’s go to World Book: ( <http://www.worldbookonline.com> )  
Which encyclopedia shall we use? That’s right, for third graders  
World Book Kids would be a great choice.

Let’s type ‘giraffe’ in our search box.

How many search results did we get? Just one.

Does this information look easier to read? Yes it does.

Look, there are some videos we can watch. Shall we try one?

Look, there are some great pictures. They can even be printed.

Look at the Tool box at the top of the article. It has some great  
tools to help us

Maybe I need some help reading this information. (demo by  
clicking on ‘read aloud in tool box’ then highlight first of article.)  
Let kids listen for a short example.

Here in the article I see the word ‘coat’. I don’t think in this article  
the word means a jacket. I think I’ll check the meaning of the  
word as it is used in this article Let’s get a definition (double click  
on the word ‘coat’ in the article.) So, ‘coat’ also means the fur or  
outer covering of an animal.

What if I would like to read this article in another language? I can  
do that too. (Again, demo)

How many of you liked this search?

Encyclopedias can sure be useful and easy to use.”