

Cerritos College Library

In the Wilford Michael Library & Learning Resource Center

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Getting Background Information on Your Topic

Within the guidelines of the assignment given to you by your instructor, select a topic that is of interest to you. Once you have selected a topic for your paper, use the general reference books available in the library to get background information on your topic. Reference books such as the encyclopedias, dictionaries, and handbooks listed below are a good starting point for your research because they help you become better acquainted with your topic.

Reference Books

Adolescent Health Sourcebook

REFERENCE RJ140 .A335 2007

Encyclopedia of Family Health

REFERENCE RC81 .A2 E5 2005

The Encyclopedia of Parenting Theory and Research

REFERENCE HQ755.8 .E523 1999

Girlhood in America: An Encyclopedia

REFERENCE HQ777 .G5745 2001

Handbook of Developmental Disabilities

REFERENCE RJ506 .D47 H356 2009

The State of the World's Children

Electronic Access

<http://www.unicef.org/rightsite/sowc/index.php>

Encyclopedia of Children and Childhood

REFERENCE HQ767.84 .E53 2004

Children's Health, the Nation's Wealth

E-Book

Encyclopedia of Family Life

REFERENCE HQ534 .E53 1999

Gale Encyclopedia of Childhood and Adolescence

REFERENCE HQ772 .G27 1997

Growing Up: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia

REFERENCE HQ767.84 .B76 1995

Healthy Children Sourcebook

REFERENCE RJ61 .H36 2003

Encyclopedia of Children, Adolescents, and the Media

REFERENCE HQ784 .M3 E53 2007

Growing Up

REFERENCE HQ767.84 .B76 1995

Getting More Information on Your Topic

Once you have done your background research you will be ready to conduct more comprehensive research using books, journals, magazines, newspapers, and the Internet.

Books

Use the [Library Catalog](#) located on the Cerritos College [Library Home Page](#) to find books on your topic that are available in the Cerritos College Library. Books can provide a broad overview of a topic or in-depth information. You can search for books by *Author*, *Title*, *Subject*, or *Keyword*. Suggested subject headings include:

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Selected Subject Headings:

Child development
Children—Growth
Adolescence

Child psychology
Discipline of children
Adolescent psychology

Child rearing
Motor ability in children
Teenagers—Health and hygiene

You can also do a *Word* search to find books on your topic. If you find one book that is useful to your research, click on the *Subject* links to see others on the same subject. One general call number area for books relating to ***child development*** is **HQ767-HQ781**.

Magazine, Journal and Newspaper Articles

Journal and magazines usually provide the most current information on a topic. Journal articles are more scholarly or professional while magazine articles tend to be shorter and more general. Newspaper articles, while not usually scholarly or professional, can give you the most current news and some additional facts on your topic. Of particular note is the academic journal ***Child Development***, a publication of the Society for Research in Child development since 1930. It includes topics in child development from the fetal period through adolescence. It is not available online, but we have a print subscription from 1996.

To find articles on your topic, use one of the online databases listed below. These databases usually provide full-text articles on almost every topic. They are available via the ***Library Home Page***. Conduct your search in these databases by using subject headings and keywords similar to those you used to locate books.

EBSCOhost
Ethnic News Watch

Gender Watch
NewsBank

For remote access to the library databases, login to the ***Library*** using your Cerritos College ID number.

See the ***Database Page*** or handout for a complete description of the Cerritos College Library online resources.

Internet Sites

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
Health Topics A to Z**
<http://www.cdc.gov/az.do>

**National Center for Early Development &
Learning**
<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~ncedl>

Child Trends DataBank
<http://www.childtrendsdatbank.org>

Zero to Three
<http://zerotothree.org/index.html>

KidsGrowth.com
<http://www.kidsgrowth.com>

**KidsHealth for Parents: Growth &
Development**
<http://kidshealth.org/parent/growth/index.html>

Child Development & Early Childhood Advice
<http://www.pbs.org/parents/childdevelopment/>

AAP Children's Health Topics
<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/stages.cfm>