

## RESEARCH in GEOLOGY

**REFERENCE BOOKS** provide basic information, definitions, facts, statistics ...

R551.03 M178pa	<u>McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of the geological sciences</u> . NY: McGraw-Hill, 1988.
R550 M272m	<u>Magill's survey ... earth science</u> . 6v. Pasadena: Salem, 1990-1998.
R550.3 B319ga	<u>Glossary of geology</u> . Falls Church, VA: Amer. Geol. Inst., 1980.
R550.3 M233e	<u>Earth sciences reference</u> . Lake San Marcos, CA: Flamingo, 1991.
R550.3 Ox2h	<u>Oxford companion to the earth</u> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.

**ALLEGHENY LIBRARY Homepage** is accessible via <<http://library.allegHENY.edu>>

- **Go to the Library's Catalog** lists books available in the Allegheny College libraries.
- **Connections** access many databases with citations --- or often complete texts --- of periodical articles.

### \*\*\*\*\* Some tips for successful searching \*\*\*\*\*

1. Choose the appropriate **Connection**:

lists of books in other libraries?	<u>OhioLink + Libweb + WorldCat via FirstSearch</u>
references to periodical articles?	<u>Geobase + Gen Science via FS + Expanded Academic</u>
complete texts of per articles?	<u>Wilson Select via FS + Expanded Academic + Ebsco</u>
titles of government publications?	<u>GPO via FS (including US Geological Survey pubs)</u>
lists of subsequently cited articles?	<u>Science Citation Index via Web of Science</u>

2. Use the **Help** screens --- they actually do!

3. Don't forget to truncate\* geolog\* will find results on geologic, geological, geologists, geology ...

4. Use search operators to improve your **word** search results:

<b>or</b>	tectonic* <b>or</b> structural geology maryland <b>or</b> virginia <b>or</b> pennsylvania	<u>either</u> term will be in your results <u>any</u> of these words in your results
<b>and</b>	kentucky <b>and</b> geolog* kentucky <b>and</b> geolog* <b>and</b> appalachian*	<u>both</u> words must be in your results <u>all 3</u> words must be in your results
<b>and (or)</b>	(tectonic* <b>or</b> foreland) <b>and</b> (blue ridge <b>or</b> appalachian* <b>or</b> alleghen* <b>or</b> great smok*)	<u>one</u> word from <u>each group</u> must be in the results
<b>not</b>	jordan <b>not</b> michael	the word following <u>not</u> can never be in the results

5. When you get a good result, look for subjects or descriptors or identifier, usually near the bottom of the screen, for additional useful links.

tectonic\* ----> Geology, structural; Plate tectonics; Suture zones; Geomorphology;  
Rocks, sedimentary; Magmatism; Geology, stratigraphic; Volcanism ...

6. If you have any problems finding stuff, just ask a Reference Librarian anytime!

*Workshops also are offered at the Reference Desk at 3 or 4 o'clock every Monday through Thursday.*

**CONNECTIONS** access databases that provide information on specific research topics.

**Expanded Academic ASAP** is one large database (over 2 million results) with references or summaries or complete articles from the last three years. **Backfile** allows limited searching from 1980 through 1998.

Search by **Keywords** (use \*, **or**, **and**, **and (or)**, **not**) or **Advanced searches** by author, source, subject.

You may also **Limit** your results to scholarly refereed publications and/or the complete text of articles.

**FirstSearch** allows searching (use **or**, **and**, **and (or)**, **not**) for article citations on about 55 databases.

+ will find the plural of a word: cave+ will find cave, caves.      *You cannot truncate in **FS** ☹*

General science abstracts lists journal citations in chemistry, math, physics, geology since 1984.

Geobase lists journal, book, conference citations in the geological sciences since 1980.

GPO lists titles of federal government publications since 1976.

*We have many USGS pubs beginning with I 19.3, I 19.4/2, I 19.13, I 19.42, I 19.76*

Wilson Select is the only **FS** database that provides entire articles -- but mainly from popular magazines.

On some **FS** databases you may also **Limit** your results to items in the Allegheny Libraries.

**Web of Science** is a massive database of 10 million+ records searchable (use \*, **or**, **and**, **and (or)**, **not**) by topic, author or cited articles. Choose Full Search and then mark **Science Citation Index Expanded** to locate articles published from 1990. *Print volumes for 1976-1989 are also available in Bibl fR016.5 Sci27.*

General Search provides lists of articles by topic or author or journal title.

topic: foreland basin\*      author: mckay g\*      source: can j earth sci

Cited Ref Search lists articles that refer to previously published research.

cited author: zhang e\*      cited work: geol soc am bull      year: 1993

1. Click on Lookup.      2. Choose the underlined reference.      3. Click on Times Cited.

### Finding Stuff on the World Wide Web

**Search** engines as <[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)> or <[www.altavista.com](http://www.altavista.com)> or <[www.alltheweb.com](http://www.alltheweb.com)> will identify possibly useful sites on specific topics.

You may also go directly to geology web sites as <<http://mel.lib.mi.us/science/earth.html>> or <[www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov)> or <[www.uni-wuerzburg.de/mineralogie/links.html](http://www.uni-wuerzburg.de/mineralogie/links.html)> or choose from additional scholarly sites from the Physical Sciences section of <[infomine.ucr.edu](http://infomine.ucr.edu)>.

*Can You Actually Trust the Web?*

*accurate? authoritative? biased? current? objective? scholarly? .com? .edu? .gov? .org?*

**Evaluating Resources** guidelines and **Citing Electronic Sources** examples are found on the Library Homepage via Library Departments --> Reference Services --> Pelletier Guides

