

Recommended Ready Reference Resources

Virtual Libraries / Web Directories / Social Bookmarking

MEL (mel.org)

- MEL Databases – Subscription databases that include magazine, newspaper and reference book titles, maps, pictures, videos, etc.
- Index to Periodicals – Search by magazine or newspaper title. Link on the front page of MEL and in the MEL Databases area.
- Gateways – Collections of recommended links on various subjects.
- Michigana – Michigan local history information
- MORE – Michigan Online Resources for Educators. Includes lesson plans, curriculum aids, display ideas, learning resources for K-12 audience and educators.

IPL (ipl.org)

- Subject organized Ready Reference Links
- Magazines and Newspapers online by state
- Special Collections – Presidents of the United States biographical information, Literary Criticism, Research and Writing, Stately Knowledge, Science Fair Information, etc.

Other Web Directories

- Librarians' Index to the Internet www.lii.org - Subject organized links
- ALA Great Websites for Kids www.ala.org/greatsites - Websites selected for kids by a committee of librarians
- Delicious www.delicious.com - Social bookmarking site where people can save their favorite links and mark them with different keywords.

General Databases

- InfoTrac General OneFile, Academic OneFile – Full-text articles from magazines and journals including People Weekly, Newsweek, Time, etc. Can email articles to yourself, choose citation style, etc.
- Wilson Select Plus – Full-text articles primarily in the humanities and social sciences
- SIRS Discoverer – K-8 Database, Includes Maps collection and Compton's Encyclopedia by Britannica
- NetLibrary – access to more than 20,000 ebooks, mostly nonfiction titles.

Phone and Address Information

- Switchboard – www.switchboard.com (includes reverse look-up)
- Canada 411 – www.canada411.com
- International - <http://www.wayp.com/>
- Toll-Free numbers - <http://www.anywho.com/tf.html>

Consumer Information

- Consumer Reports available through MEL
- Better Business Bureau – www.bbb.gov
- Federal Citizen Information Center - <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/>
- Federal Trade Commission <http://www.ftc.gov/>

Health Information

- Health and Wellness Resource Center – MEL Database that includes Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine, Gale Alternative Encyclopedia of Medicine, numerous journals, videos, etc.
- MedlinePlus Health Information <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/> - National Library of Medicine website that provides a great Go Local area for finding doctors and support groups for specific issues in your area. Also great overviews of ailments and diseases.
- Web MD <http://www.webmd.com/>
- HealthFinder <http://www.healthfinder.gov/>
- MerckSource <http://www.mercksource.com>

Government Information

- Thomas – Legislative Search <http://thomas.loc.gov>
- GPO Access <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/>
- Statistical Abstract of the United States
- <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>
- Michigan Legislature <http://www.legislature.mi.gov>
- Also, try www.google.com/unclesam for quick searches

Legal Information

- Findlaw www.findlaw.com
- Internet Law Library <http://www.lawguru.com/ilawlib/index.php>
- Michigan Court Forms <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/courtforms/index.htm>
- AllLaw Legal Help Directory <http://www.alllaw.com/>

Business Information

- Business and Company Resource Center - MEL Database that includes financial profiles, market research, investment reports, contact information, rankings, articles, etc.
- BigCharts www.bigcharts.com Stock quotes, including historical
- Thomas Regional <http://www.thomasnet.com/> *Directory of suppliers*
- Hoovers www.hoovers.com
- Small Business Administration www.sba.gov
- Business Owner's Toolkit <http://www.toolkit.com/>

Educational and Employment Information

- Learning Express Library, Job and Career Accelerator – MEL Databases that provide access to tests and job searches
- MEL Business and Jobs Links (Includes resume, job posting, small business, statistics, personal finance sites)
- Petersons College Search www.petersons.com
- College Board www.collegeboard.org
- Fastweb <http://www.fastweb.com/> Scholarship search
- Occupational Outlook Handbook <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

Historical and Genealogical Information

- HeritageQuest – MEL Database that features Census records, revolutionary war records, Freedman’s Bank records, etc.
- MEL Michigana
- Cyndi’s List <http://www.cyndislist.com/>
- Family Search <http://www.familysearch.org>
- Infoplease History <http://www.infoplease.com/history.html> Timelines, Documents, etc.

Reader’s Advisory

- General**
 - Novelist- MEL Database -
 - Books and Authors – MEL Database
 - KDL What’s Next – www.kdl.org/libcat/WhatsNextNEW.asp Search for complete listings of series by author, title, series name or genre.
 - Library Thing – www.librarything.com
- Library Links**
 - Library Booklists and Bibliographies (from the former Waterboro Library website) - <http://librarybooklists.org/>
 - Compilation of booklists from libraries all over the web.
 - Mid-Continent Public Library Reader’s Advisory -www.mcpl.lib.mo.us/readers/ Includes book to movie lists, juvenile series and sequels lists, awards, recommended reading and links to other resources.
 - Multnomah Library Booklists - www.multcolib.org/kids/booklists/
- Youth Reader’s Advisory**
 - **Reading rants** - www.readingrants.org Out of this world booklists for teens
 - **Teen Reads** – www.teenreads.com Resource for teen booklists and reviews
 - **No Flying, No Tights** – www.noflyingnotights.com Great site for people exploring the realm of graphic novels.
 - **YALSA Booklists and Book Awards** such as Popular Paperbacks, Teens Top 10, Printz, and BBYA <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/booklistsbook.cfm>
 - **ALSC Booklists and Book Awards** such as Children’s Notable, Newbery and Pura Belpre <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/literaryrelated.cfm>

Entertainment Information

- Internet Movie Database – www.IMDB.com
- All Music Guide – www.allmusic.com
- Rotten Tomatoes – www.rottentomatoes.com
- Metacritic - <http://www.metacritic.com>
- Common Sense Media – www.common sense media.org

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