

SIRS

Citation Guidelines



What Is Source Information?

Source information, sometimes called bibliographic information, is important for thorough research. Whenever you use information from SIRS Discoverer® for a report or other assignment, you must identify (cite) the original publication that contained the information, SIRS Discoverer, and in some cases The World Almanac® for Kids or Compton's by Britannica® Encyclopedia.

Where Do I Find Source Information?

Because it is such an important element of research, source information is available in several places in SIRS Discoverer. It appears automatically with all search results, and a link is also provided from the full-text of each article. Source information is included with all pictures, maps and charts as well.

How Do I Cite Information from SIRS Discoverer?

Examples for citing information from all databases within SIRS Discoverer on the Web are available below using Modern Language Association format, American Psychological Association format, and Turabian format. Ask your instructor which citation format (MLA, APA, or Turabian) is preferred.

[MLA \(Modern Language Association\) Format](#)

[Full-Text Articles](#)

[Graphics & Media](#)

[Internet Sites](#)

[APA \(American Psychological Association\) Format](#)

[Full-Text Articles](#)

[Graphics & Media](#)

[Internet Sites](#)

[Turabian Format](#)

[Full-Text Articles](#)

[Graphics & Media](#)

[Internet Sites](#)

MLA (Modern Language Association) Format

Full-Text Articles

Works Cited entries:

Author's name. "Title of the Article." Original Source of Article Date of original source: page numbers. Name of the Database Used. Name of the Service. Name of Library or Library System, City, State Abbreviation. Date of access <URL of service's homepage>.

Hofmann, Kate. "What Cat Is That?" Ranger Rick March 2006:16-20. SIRS Discoverer. SIRS Discoverer on the Web. North Library, Anytown, TX. 25 Feb. 2008 <<http://discoverer.sirs.com>>.

"Ancient Asia." The World Almanac for Kids 2008 2008: N. pag. SIRS Discoverer. SIRS Discoverer on the Web. North Library, Anytown, TX. 25 Feb. 2008 <<http://discoverer.sirs.com>>.

"Terrorism." Compton's by Britannica 2006: N. pag. SIRS Discoverer. SIRS Discoverer on the Web. North Library, Anytown, TX. 25 Feb. 2008 <<http://discoverer.sirs.com>>.

Note entry:

Number of footnote Author's name, "Title of the Article," Original Source of Article Date of original source: page numbers, Name of the Database Used, Name of the Service, Name of Library or Library System, City, State Abbreviation, Date of access <URL of service's homepage>.

¹Hoffman, Kate, "What Cat Is That?," Ranger Rick March 2006:16-20, SIRS Discoverer, SIRS Discoverer on the Web, North Library, Anytown, TX, 25 Feb. 2008 <<http://discoverer.sirs.com>>.

Graphics & Media

"Title of graphic." Graphic Type. Copyright Holder. Name of site providing graphic. Date of access <URL of service's homepage>.

"Afghanistan." Map. Magellan Geographix. SIRS Discoverer. 25 Feb. 2008 <<http://discoverer.sirs.com>>.

"Natural Gas Usage Chart." Chart. U.S. Department of Energy. SIRS Discoverer. 25 Feb. 2008 <<http://discoverer.sirs.com>>.

Internet Sites

Title of Internet Site. Name of the editor, compiler, or translator (if available). Date of most recent electronic publication (if known). Sponsoring organization or institution. Date of access <Electronic address or URL>.

Astronaut Biographies. Ed. Jerry Wright. Feb. 17, 2008. NASA/Johnson Space Center. 25 Feb. <<http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/>>.

APA (American Psychological Association) Format

Full-Text Articles

References format:

Author, Initial. (date of original source). Article title. *Original Source of Article*, page numbers. Retrieved [month day, year] from database.

Hofmann, K. (2006, March). What Cat Is That? *Ranger Rick*, pp. 16-20. Retrieved February 25, 2008 from SIRS Discoverer.

Ancient Asia. (2008). *The World Almanac for Kids 2008*, n.p. Retrieved February 25, 2008 from SIRS Discoverer.

Terrorism. (2006) *Compton's by Britannica*, n.p. Retrieved February 25, 2008 from SIRS Discoverer.

Note entry:

Instead of footnote or endnote, the author's last name and the publication year/date of access are placed in parentheses within the body of the text. If the author's name is not available, cite the first two or three words of the article's title in quotes:

(Hofmann, 2006/February 25, 2008)

("What Cat Is That?" 2006/February 25, 2008).

Graphics & Media

Artist or Copyright Holder. (year, month day of first publication). Title. [[Media type.]] *Original Publication*. Retrieved [month day, year] from database.

Starchild. (2001, October 15). Armstrong, Neil. [Graphic]. *U.S. National Aeronautics & Space Administration*. Retrieved February 25, 2008 from SIRS Discoverer.

Internet Sites

Name of Specific Document. (Date of Online publication, Year, Month Day). Location of Sponsoring Organization: Name of Sponsoring Organization. Retrieved (Date of Retrieval, Month Day, Year) from World Wide Web: URL of page beginning with http:// [note: do not add closing punctuation as this may affect retrieval]

Astronaut Biographies. (2003, February 17). Houston TX: NASA/Johnson Space Center. Retrieved February 25, 2008 from World Wide Web: <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/>

Note Format:

To cite an entire Web site (but not a specific document on the site), it's sufficient to give the address of the site in the text. No reference entry is needed. For example: Prehistoric Life provides information about extinct prehistoric animals and prehistoric life. (<http://www.nature.ca/notebooks/english/prehispg.htm>).

Turabian Format

Full-Text Articles

Bibliography Style entry:

Author Last name, First name. "Article title." *Original source of article* Volume, Number (Publication Date): Pages. URL (accessed Date of Access).

Hofmann, Kate. "Which Cat Is That?" *Ranger Rick* (March 2006):16-20.
<http://discoverer.sirs.com> (accessed February 25, 2008).

Bibliography Note Style entry:

Note Number Author's First and Last Names, "Article title," *Original source of article* Volume, Number (Date of Publication): Page Numbers. URL (accessed Date of Access).

¹Kate Hofmann, "Which Cat Is That?" *Ranger Rick* (March 2006): 16-20.
<http://discoverer.sirs.com> (accessed February 25, 2008).

Reference List Style entry:

Author's Last Name, Author's First Name. Date of Publication. Title of article: Subtitle of article. *Title of Journal* Volume, Number (Additional Date Information): Page Numbers. URL (accessed Date of Access).

Hofmann, Kate. 2006. What Cat Is That? *Ranger Rick* (March): 16-20.
<http://discoverer.sirs.com> (accessed February 25, 2006).

Parenthetical Style entry:

(Author's Last Name Date of Publication, Page Numbers)

(Hofmann 2006, 16)

Graphics & Media [Cite only in Note format]

Note number "Name of Graphic," Type of Graphic, *Graphic Creator*, Publication/Creation Month Year, Page Number. URL (accessed Date of Access).

¹"Animals in the Flooded Forest," illustration, *Scholastic News*, April 2008.
<http://discoverer.sirs.com> (accessed September 1, 2008).

Internet Sites

Name of author or sponsoring institution. "Title of Web page." Title or owner of site.
URL (accessed Date of access).

Federal Aviation Administration. "Aviation Education Kid's Corner," Federal Aviation Administration. http://www.faa.gov/student_resources/kcorner (accessed February 25, 2008).

Detailed guidelines on documenting online sources are explained in the sixth edition of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (2003), the fifth edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2001) and the Seventh Edition of A Manual for Writers by Kate Turabian (2008).

Updated February 2008