



SIRS Discoverer[®] with SIRS WebFind

What are the Key Benefits?

Security, Reliability & Safety	Unlike mechanically compiled sources, each article and image is researched by a dedicated editorial team—ensuring age-appropriate content for young and struggling students.
Currency & Daily Updating	Since SIRS Discoverer updates aren't tied to an annual print schedule, active editorial management provides currency and updating that's only available from a native digital source.
Promotes Media Literacy	Discoverer combines the best of editorialized content—and the most varied sources—including Newspapers, Magazines, e-Books, Websites and more!
Supports Curriculum	Discoverer enables differentiated instruction in 21 st Century Framework topics with teacher support materials, and ensures student success with graduated content for intuitive learning.

Why SIRS Discoverer over Competitors?

SIRS At a Glance	Unique Differentiators
<p>CONTENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% Full-Text Articles w/ Summaries • 1900+ Sources • 30,000+ High-Quality Images & Illustrations • 9000+ Monitored Educational Weblinks • 40,000+ Subjects Hand-indexed to LoC • 3000+ Biographies • 3000+ Current & Historical Maps • 400+ Country and Culture Facts • 300+ Editorial Cartoons • 5600+ Activities • Growing e-reference collection including: <i>Weekly Reader</i> series <p>FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lexiles & Editorially-Assigned Reading Levels • Graphic Organizers • Curriculum Pathfinders • Spotlight Topics • E-mail Functions • Monthly Activities, Projects & Lesson Plans • Standards Alignments • Educator's Guide & Student Workbooks • Free Online Training 	<p>SIRS is truly different than any other provider. As the <i>only resource</i> for materials targeted to student research – hand-selected and indexed from over 1,900+ varied and reliable high-quality sources – SIRS provides safe and current content for beginning learners and struggling students. A resource created with special care to provide for differentiated instruction, enhanced visual and media literacy, and high-interest content that promotes learning, Discoverer is much more than the typical “dumbed-down” collection of resources behind a graphical interface made to look kid-friendly.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #0070c0; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> </div> <p>SIRS vs. Aggregators – SIRS editors select 100% full-text content daily from varied safe sources, excluding futile and inappropriate reviews, schedules, or captions. With many aggregated feeds, this is exactly the content that appears first, especially at the lower Lexile reading levels. SIRS goes further, looking beyond numerical scores, and hand-assigns a reading difficulty level based on text and content complexity. With the addition of staff-written summaries, subject indexing, and inline thumbnail pictures and other textual visual literacy cues, Discoverer makes it easy from early learners to advanced readers to find high-interest content at just their reading level.</p> <p>SIRS vs. Encyclopedias — Unlike Encyclopedias, which are designed as a jumping-off point for further study, Discoverer offers a more complete, comprehensive research solution—providing features and content from different media types, and designed to support the entire research process and prepare the student for future academic success. Students learn to search in a range of search options, research in a guided environment, analyze content, and form their own ideas—not just recite commonly reported details. In addition to full-text article content from such magazines as <i>Boys' Life</i>, <i>Highlights for Children</i>, and <i>Scholastic</i>, and a growing book collection from acclaimed publishers including <i>Weekly Reader</i> and <i>Biography for Beginners</i>, early learners can explore a Dictionary, Thesaurus, Encyclopedia, Almanac, and Map Collection!</p>

Questions to Ask Before Investing:

Teacher	Is it important that students have access to the very best resources from a variety of titles?
Principal	Does preparing students to think critically enhance their future chances at academic success?
Ed Technology	Are you comfortable with open Web resources that can't provide security and reliability?
Media Specialist	Do high-value graphics and charts promote media literacy better than thousands of headshots?

