

What are the Key Benefits?

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Editorial Selection | Unlike mechanically compiled sources, SIRS Issues Researcher has a dedicated editorial team monitoring the issues and selecting the best content ensuring a balanced and current collection of viewpoints. |
| Currency | Since SIRS Issues Researcher updates aren't tied to an annual print schedule, 'real-time' editorial review of evolving issues delivers currency only available from a native digital source. |
| Develops Critical Thinking | SIRS editors construct a concise overview which helps students build solid foundations for understanding, then expand each issue with engaging Essential Questions with answers and viewpoint articles to guide critical thinking and analysis of issues. |
| Promotes Media Literacy | Researcher is the <i>only</i> Social Issues resource to combine the best-of editorialized content, and the most varied sources including Newspapers, Magazines, e-Books, Websites and more! |
| Supports Curriculum | Researcher enables differentiated instruction in 21 st Century Framework topics and ensures student success with graduated content and research tools that make learning intuitive. |

Why SIRS Issues Researcher over Competitors?

| SIRS At a Glance | Unique Differentiators |
|--|---|
| <p>CONTENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% Full-Text w/ Editorial Summaries & Lexile Reading levels • 1,800+ Sources most as text+graphics • 300+ International Sources • 200+ Available in PDF • 80,000+ Subjects hand-indexed to LoC • 15,000+ Websites • 20,000+ high quality graphics & charts • 2000+ Viewpoint articles • 300+ Leading Issues • 500+ Political Cartoons • 3000+ Interactives, maps, timelines & primary sources <p>FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Top 10' Leading Issues • Today's News with Video • Focus on Terrorism • Natural Disasters • Curriculum Pathfinders • Spotlight Topics • Article Text to Speech • Language Translation • Note Organizer • Visual Browse • iTHINK Skills Tutor • Standards Alignments • Free Online Training • Monthly Lesson Plans & Newsletters | <p>SIRS is truly different than any other provider. As the <i>only resource</i> for materials targeted to student research which are hand-selected and indexed from over 1,800 varied high-quality sources <i>from around the world</i>, SIRS provides the currency and broad current events coverage of aggregation without the overwhelming duplication and irrelevant hits. <i>Plus</i>, with editorialized content available in every Leading Issue, SIRS rivals the editorial context of reference works and the interactivity of multimedia encyclopedias – all in one!</p> <p>SIRS vs. Aggregators – SIRS saves time by highlighting only the best content and avoiding duplication of the same newswire story. Plus with more varied sources, SIRS editors can cover all the angles, moving beyond just the basics. Editorial selection means less head-shots, and more quality photos, illustrations, diagrams and charts -- plus, continually monitored Websites need no disclaimers regarding potential content.</p> <p>SIRS vs. Reference Works — SIRS Editorial Overviews help frame the issue without hours and pages worth of reading as occurs with many reference books. Essential Questions with answers and viewpoint articles expand upon that base, giving students solid scaffoldings for research. With the added benefit of new content added daily, students can keep up with current events and continually changing issues that book publishing schedules simply can't accommodate.</p> <p>SIRS vs. Encyclopedias — SIRS provides content from top-notch sources covering all sides of the issue (Such as: New York Times, Christian Science Monitor and Supreme Court of the United States: A Student Companion) going beyond just the facts and figures. Students learn to separate fact from opinion, analyze editorial cartoons, and form their own ideas – not just recite the same commonly reported details.</p> |

YOUR 'TOP 10'
PRO vs. CON
LEADING ISSUES

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Medical care | Cyberbullying | Financial crises, International aspects |
| Mass media, Censorship | Renewable energy sources | Nuclear weapons |
| Prohibited books | Popular music, Texts | Teenagers, Civil rights |
| Printer Friendly | | Top 10 RSS Feed |

Questions to Ask Before Investing:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Teacher | Is it important that students have access to the very best resources from a variety of sources? |
| Principal | Does preparing students to think critically enhance their future chances at academic success? |
| Ed Technology | Are you comfortable other resources that have disclaimers about their Web content? |
| Media Specialist | Do high-value graphics and charts promote media literacy better than thousands of headshots? |