@ Your RMS Library

Webs in an Online LMC Catalog? Easier than Google?

Increasingly, librarians value online resources. Folks have always expected libraries to have great books.

Today, many librarians understand that Webpages meet patrons' needs too. If Websites are carefully selected, they can contain information that is more up-to-date than books and other print media.

Today's public and school libraries use online LMC catalogs. Each school uses America's premier school library catalog, *Follett's Destiny*.

Each school also purchases access to *Follett's WebPath Express*. What does this mean to you?

Busy people have limited time for searching the Internet and evaluating all the Websites a search engine finds. For example, a *Google* search for *minerals* (on December 20, 2010) turned up 88,800,000 indexed web pages – almost 89 million! This is far too many to be useful.

Searching *Destiny Quest* using the *Sears subject heading* "minerals" will return a more manageable number of Websites. Each is selected because it is helpful in schools. It is easy to narrow this search, helping you quickly find exactly what you need.

Are you busy? Want to save time? What is more useful, a listing of more than 1 million Websites that you have to evaluate by yourself or a tool that finds librarian/teacher-approved Websites that fit the needs of students around the country and world?

Next time you need information online, resist the urge to go right to *Google*. Try you're your library's online catalog, *Destiny WebPath.*

Looking for Information About Minerals?

Then think like a librarian and other information specialists. Take advantage of how information is organized in a library collection.

Librarians look at resources and apply "**subject headings**" – vocabulary from a list, words that describe information. When librarians assign subject headings, they create connections between related resources. This powerful tool can be used for books, CDs, Videos, periodicals and even Web pages.

Librarians in schools and most public libraries use a list of terms for subject headings – terms that come from a book, "**Sears Subject Headings**."

Want to find information about minerals in a library catalog? Here are some of the *Sears Subject Headings* for minerals in the RMS MC catalog:

- Gems
- Geology
- Gold
- Human Body Marine
- Mineral Resources
- Mineralogy
- Minerals
- Minerals – handbooks, manuals, etc
- Minerals – Identification
- Mines and Mineral Resources
- Nutrition
- Nutrition Tables
- Ore Deposits
- Vitamins

Advanced Searches with Destiny Quest: Subject Headings

The *Destiny* online catalog can be used different ways. For most of use, simpler is better if we find what we want. *Destiny Quest* allows us to do different kinds of searches and find different kinds of resources.

Just like Google, *Destiny Quest* shows us a simple search box. Enter your search term and click *GO!* A simple search for *minerals* on December 20, 2010, returned 58 resources as library titles (books) and 367 Web pages if you click on the "*Web Sites*" tab on in the upper left screen.

A subject heading search in *Destiny Quest* can be done one of 2 ways. Probably the quickest method is to click on the tab for "*Advanced Search*" in the upper-right. This brings up a search screen with lots of choices. These help us narrow searches. You can choose up to three ways to limit your search:

- *Show me everything that has…*
- *But I don't want…*
- *Limit my search to…*

Destiny Quest makes it easy to think about what you are looking for (*Show me everything*), what you do not want (*But I don't want*), and type of resources you are looking for (*Limit my search*).

If you do a search for *rocks* using the "pull-down" menu to select "*Subjects*", you will narrow your search to books, virtually all containing information about weather. Pretty helpful, huh?

After clicking "**Web Sites**" tab with the 367 results, you have 2 options to limit your search by (look for links in lower left of screen):

- *Domain/URL* (web address)
- *Topics* (a set of links to choose from)

So there you have it! Finding Webpages that meet the needs of most RMS students is easy if you use *Destiny Quest/Webpath.*