

PATHFINDER:

HOW TO FIND INFORMATION SOURCES for your Independent Study Project

The Calabasas Library includes text and online resources in a variety of formats. Locate books, newspaper and magazine articles, scholarly journal articles, or reference materials in the library or from the Library Home page

<http://www.cityofcalabasas.com/departments/library.html>

1. **Books** provide specialized, in depth information about your topic.

Browse books on current issues in the **300s** (social sciences) section of the library with additional issues in the **170s** (ethics) and **600s** (medicine, technology). Non-fiction books are located in the Children's and Adults non-fiction areas of the library.

How to **Find a book** in the library [online catalog](#):



Keyword search example: *mass media* retrieves the title

Is media violence a problem? / James T. Torr, book editor J 302.23 IS

To increase your sources, scroll down the catalog entry for additional **subject** headings.



Subject heading search example:

SUBJECT: Mass media and children
SUBJECT: Mass media and teenagers

SUBJECT: Violence in mass media
SUBJECT: Children and violence

2. **Reference sources** such as **encyclopedias** and **almanacs** contain general background, definitions, and statistics about a topic. Locate these sources to the left of the Reference Desk.

Encyclopedia of Science and Technology **Ref 503 MGH**
New Encyclopaedia Britannica **Ref 030 B**
Statistical abstract of the United States **Ref 317.3 STA**
<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/statab.html>

3. **Electronic subscription resources.** The Calabasas Library subscribes to **General Reference Center Gold (INFOTRAC)**, a rich source of current articles about thousands of topics. Access the **INFOTRAC** database from inside the library. Remote access to **INFOTRAC** requires the barcode on your Calabasas library card.



[General Reference Center Gold](#)



[Custom Newspapers](#)



[Health & Wellness](#)



[Literature Resource Center](#)

Other Libraries in the area:

Los Angeles County Library <http://www.colapublib.org/> Los Angeles Public Library <http://www.lapl.org/>