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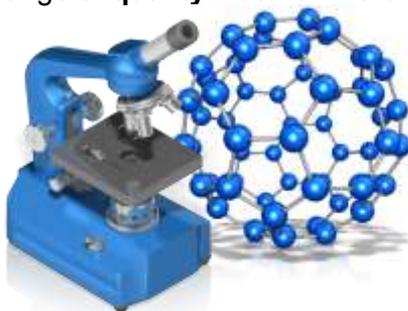
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Finding Information on Science

In order to produce good quality assignments, you should be using a range of different sources and materials. ***It is important to realise that you should be making use of QUALITY sources only, rather than simply relying on such as Wikipedia.*** This handout will help you find a wide range of **quality** material in the field of science.

If you are struggling to find what you need - ask the Learning Centre staff



March 2018

• Online Resources

The Learning Centre has bought licences to a range of specialised databases to help you find **QUALITY** material that has been assessed by fellow experts (peer-reviewed); these databases are **NOT** available freely via the web and should be a key part of your research.

To log in to these databases, you need your OPEN ATHENS password. You need to COME INTO THE LEARNING CENTRE to fill in a form for this password. *It is important that you do this as soon as possible.* You will then get your username and password **Please make a note of these!**

Once you have your OpenAthens password, go to

<http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/> and click on the



You will then have access to the following databases:

- **The Reviews (*was called Philip Allan Databases*)** Online access to current and past copies of *Business Review*, *Economic Review*, and *Politics Review*. Great way of keeping up-to-date with current issues. Details of how to use this database efficiently are available in a range of simple guides (***Simple guides 11-16***)
- **EBSCO Discovery** Provides a quick and easy way to search over 7,000 academic and scientific journals as well as electronic books. Ebsco is good for the latest on genetics research, biotechnology and other scientific research. Includes the archive of ***New Scientist***. You can access the databases from INTO Manchester or at home. It is available via **http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/** Log in with your

OpenAthens password. The Learning Resource Centre has 2 detailed guides on how to use Ebsco Discovery. Please ask the staff.

Issues Online Database on social issues; covers topics such as biotechnology, genetic modification and stem cell research. Includes key statistics and also links to a range of e-books. It is available via Ebsco discovery at

<http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/>

To access you need an extra password, You need an extra password to use this database, **this is on the screen when you go into**

Ebsco Discovery

There is a separate leaflet on how to use *Issues Online* (Simple Guide 19)

You need your OPEN ATHENS password to use the INTO Manchester databases. If you do not have one, ask the Learning Centre staff

- **Books** Your teacher will recommend key texts that you should read as part of your studies: most of these should be available in the Learning Centre. To find both paper and electronic books you need to search using the Library Catalogue. The catalogue is available via the Learning Centre website at

<https://intolearningcentre.co.uk/>

The Library Catalogue gives you the “Dewey number” of the book. This will help you find it on the shelf as all books in the Learning Centre are organised in Dewey number order. The Dewey number for Physics is **530**; Chemistry is **540** and Biology is **574**

- **Electronic/ E-Books**

Electronic books covering key topics in science are also available and you can use these both at INTO Manchester or at home. As well as searching for a full book, you can also search across **ALL** the pages in available books, all at the same time, for the topic you are interested in. Electronic books are available via book Central and Ebsco Discovery which you find at

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<http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/> You need your **OpenAthens** password to log in

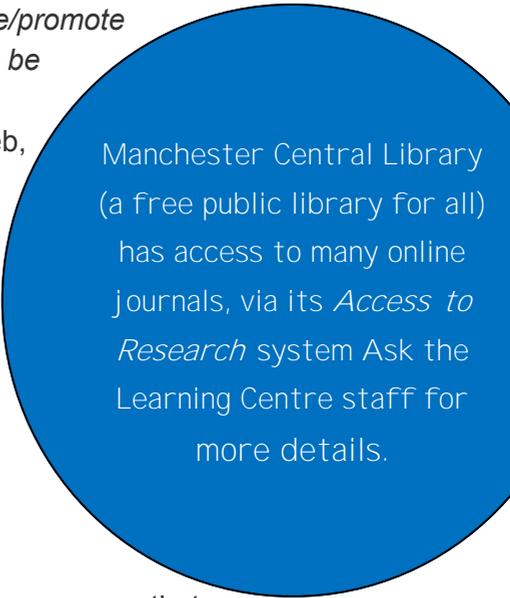
There is a separate leaflet on how to use *E-Books* (Simple Guides 17/18)

Use Moodle Your tutors will have put valuable material on Moodle, the Virtual Learning Environment. **It is important that you log in and gain access to the International Foundation Sciences/ Mathematics areas of Moodle.** This is available via the Learning Centre website at <http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/> **Select Moodle.**

Useful Websites The internet is full of information resources for you to use for your studies. However, it is **VERY** important that you use information from reputable sources only. *Anyone can (and many do!) set up a website just to fool people/promote their own point of view, so you need to be careful about which sources you use.*

As a minimum, when searching the web, you should be making use of search engines such as **Google Scholar** rather than Google itself so you know you will find some "scholarly"/ academic literature.

Google Scholar is available at: <http://scholar.google.co.uk/>



Manchester Central Library (a free public library for all) has access to many online journals, via its *Access to Research* system Ask the Learning Centre staff for more details.

Subject Gateways

It is recommended that you make use of **Subject Gateways** that contain web resources that have been evaluated and quality checked by subject experts. Listed are some subject gateways you might find of use for your research:

- **CORE (COnnecting REpositories)**
Free access to millions of open access research papers.
Website: <https://core.ac.uk/>

- **Digital Commons Network**

Brings together free, full-text scholarly articles from hundreds of universities and colleges worldwide. **Website:** <http://network.bepress.com/>

- **Directory of Open Access Journals**

Gives access to some very useful “peer reviewed” journals for you to use. This means that articles have been checked by fellow experts. Suitable for those carrying out in-depth research. **Website:** <http://www.doaj.org/>

- **JURN**

Finds content in over 4,000 FREE ‘open access’ ejournals in the arts and humanities. Provides a useful list of the journals included. **Website:** <http://www.jurn.org/>

Useful Websites: General and Current Affairs

- **BBC News Science and the Environment**

Latest science and environmental news from the BBC. Important for keeping up-to-date.

Website: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science_and_environment/

- **BBC Science and Nature**

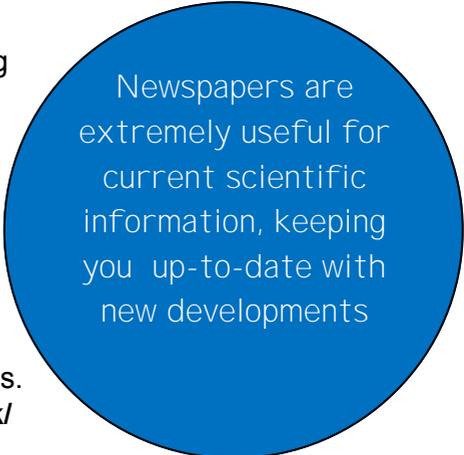
The BBC has 2 Science and Nature websites, packed with information on a wide range of topics. As well as programme information, you can find articles, games, interactive quizzes and background information on subjects from evolution to the solar system. **Website:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/science> or **Website:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature>

- **Cafe Scientifique** Manchester Meetings where science issues are discussed and debated. Open to anyone. Check website for latest details. **Website:** <http://www.cafescientifique.manchester.ac.uk>

- **The Environment Agency** Organisation that protects and improves the environment in England; useful for environmental perspectives on the latest scientific issues.

Website: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/>

- **Friends of the Earth** Campaigning organisation dealing with Environmental issues around the world. Useful for environmental perspectives on the latest scientific developments. **Website:** <http://foe.co.uk>
- **The Guardian: Science** Overview of science news via blogs and in-depth articles from leading UK national newspaper. Easy to read and a great way of keeping up-to-date. **Website:** <http://www.theguardian.com/science>
- **The Independent: Science** Online scientific news from *The Independent* newspaper, a British daily national newspaper. **Website:** <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/>
- **Open Science Directory**
A global search tool for open access journals many based on programmes in developing countries. A good way of finding innovative material for more in-depth research.
Website: <http://www.opensciencedirectory.net/>
- **Pearson SciLinks**
A site from Pearson's Publishers that covers a range of scientific topics including biology, chemistry and physics. Choose the topic you want to look at and it takes you to further online resources.
Website: <http://bit.ly/19NWD6R> (*shortened URL*)
- **Scientific American**
Famous American website covering latest issues in science. Great for discovering the latest scientific issues. **Website:** <http://www.scientificamerican.com>
- **S-Cool: Revision Website**
Revision website covering range of subjects including biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics.
Website: <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/>



Newspapers are extremely useful for current scientific information, keeping you up-to-date with new developments

Useful Websites: Biology

- **Bio-Alive**

Bio-Alive is a life science online video sharing community, great for watching biology and life science related videos especially on anatomy and physiology.

Website: <http://bio-alive.com/animations/anatomy.htm>

- **Biochemical Society**

The education section of the Biochemical Society website offers a range of free booklets on key topics in biochemistry.

Website:

<http://www.biochemistry.org/>

- **BioCoach** Site reviewing material on cells, DNA and plant structure. **Website:** <http://bit.ly/2aQvQPn>

(shortened URL)

- **Cells Alive** Covers cell biology and immunology. Packed full of animations, puzzles and quizzes to make cell biology interesting and exciting.

Website: <http://www.cellsalive.com>

- **Genetics: Analysis and Principles**

Based on chapters of *Genetics: Analysis and Principles* by Robert Brooker, from the University of Minnesota. Contains animations, quizzes and other interactive activities to make genetics come alive.

Website: <http://bit.ly/152o7nC> *(shortened URL)*

- **Scitable**

A free science library and personal learning tool provided by the Nature Publishing Group, one of the world's leading publisher of science. Currently concentrates on genetics and cell biology. A great site. **Website:** <http://www.nature.com/scitable>



Make use of other libraries such as Manchester Central Library or the University of Manchester library

Ask Learning Centre staff

- **Wellcome Trust**

Provides high-quality free resources ranging from videos or copies of the *Big Picture* magazine. Looks at different issues- for example, cells, genetics and disease.

Website: <http://bit.ly/1780hTo> (*shortened URL*)

Useful Websites: Chemistry

- **WebElements: the periodic table on the web**

Tells you everything you've ever wanted to know about the periodic table (and more!). **Website:** <http://www.webelements.com>

- **Royal Society of Chemistry**

The RSC is the largest organisation in Europe for advancing the chemical sciences and the website has a wide range of information for chemists. Website has a section for students called *RSC Chemnet* that is free to join and offers help with your studies, exam revision and a chat facility to talk to others studying chemistry.

Website: <http://www.rsc.org/>

Website: <http://my.rsc.org/chemnet>

Useful Websites: Physics

- **HyperPhysics**

Hosted by the Department of Physics & Astronomy at Georgia State University. Online tutorials cover a wide range of physics topics, including modern physics and astronomy. Material is organised through extensive concept maps that you have to click through to get to your topic, but worth persevering with.

Website: <http://bit.ly/13WIIRo> (*shortened URL*)

- **Institute of Physics**

Aims to inspire people of all ages about physics. A gateway to best physics places on the web with a database of over 4,000 handpicked physics sites. Has latest physics news as well as a round-up of physics experiments. **Website:** <http://www.physics.org/>

