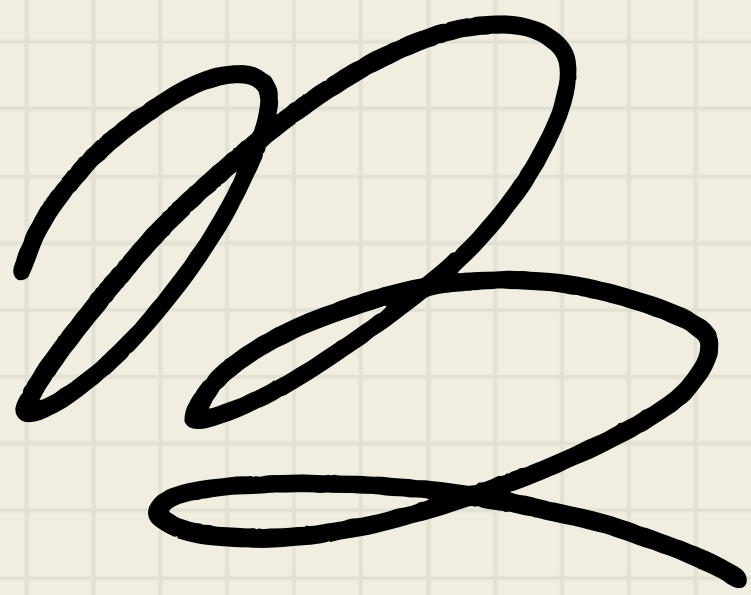


Roger L. Putnam Vocational Technical Academy

# Library Databases

by Lesley Brower, Putnam Library Teacher





# Objectives

**Teachers will be able to:**

- Understand what databases are, how they vary from search engines & why they are good for research
- Access databases through the Putnam Library
- Identify & use database tools & resources

# Springfield Public Schools Portrait of a Graduate

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SPS Schools will prepare students to:

Apply  
technology to  
advance  
learning and  
solve  
problems

Find and  
analyze all  
kinds of  
information  
and critically  
evaluate  
each source

Write and  
speak with  
clarity,  
evidence, and  
purpose

# SPS Librarians

## Mission Statement

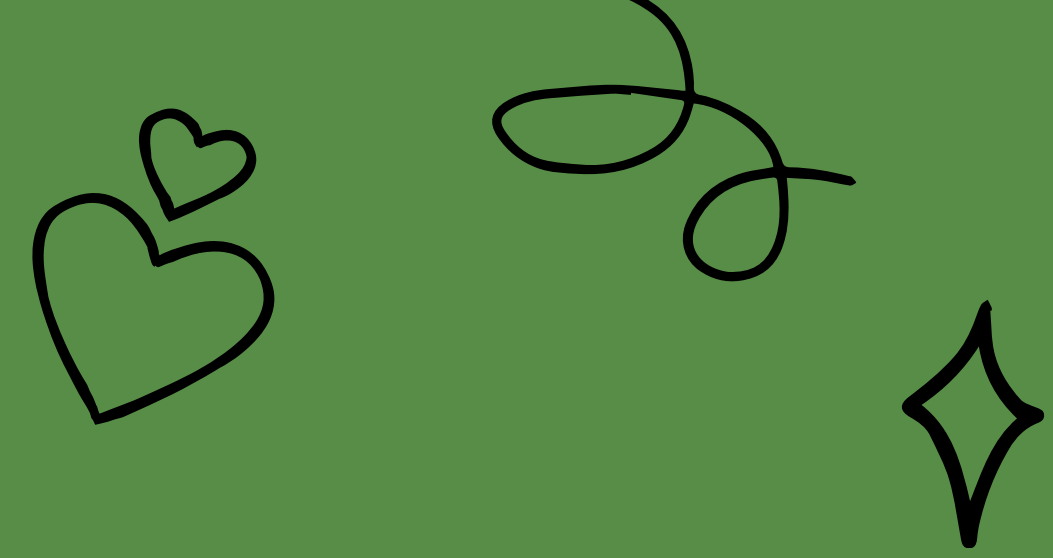


It is the mission of Springfield Public School libraries to support equity and proficiency, to be an integral part of the learning community, and to develop library programs that are reflective and respectful of the diverse needs of all stakeholders.

**We do this by:**

- Fostering a culture of books, reading, and inquiry
- Assisting students and staff with access to quality resources in a variety of media
- Providing all services in a nurturing and inclusive environment

The overarching goal is to equip students with the skills necessary to become college and career ready.



Let's talk inquiry, research & access  
to quality resources in a variety of  
media!



# *Inquiry & Research*

## **Definitions**

**Inquiry** requires students to engage in active learning by generating their own driving questions, seeking out answers, and exploring complex problems.

**Research** addresses the process of finding answers.

# Database

Defined as



a usually large  
collection of data  
organized especially  
for rapid search and  
retrieval  
(as by a computer)

# Have you ever used a database?



Yes you have!

Search engines like Google, Bing and Yahoo are databases which contain free websites.

Academic databases are provided free to MA schools if the school has a certified librarian. Databases provide free articles from encyclopedias, periodicals, magazines & academic journals as well as media like primary sources, video, audio, images, statistics and infographics expertly curated by information specialists.



# Search Engines vs. Databases



## Search Engines

- Anyone can create a website
- Info is not always complete, accurate, or credible
- Millions of search results



## Databases

- Research has been reviewed by information specialists for accuracy
- May contain copyrighted media that is not free to the public
- Less search results, which can also be filtered
- Contains targeted, complete, accurate & credible information

# 3 ways to access databases through the Putnam Library

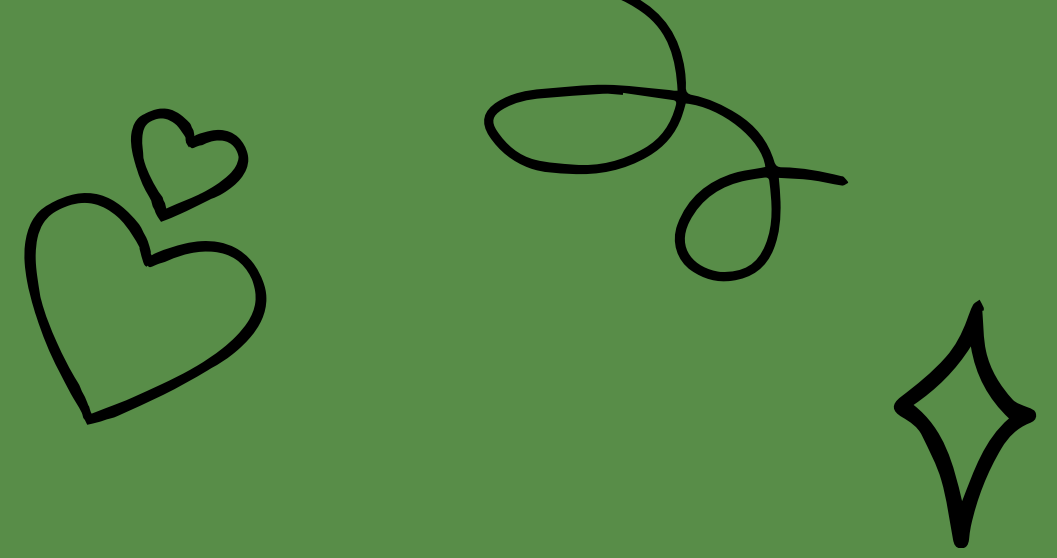
- Go to student links, staff applications, or MySPS
- Select SPS Libraries
- Select Roger L. Putnam Vocational Technical High School
- Select Massachusetts Library Databases, under Databases

Go directly to the Putnam Library Website

<https://www.putnamvta.com/library>

Use this shareable link

[https://galepages.com/mlin\\_w\\_rlputvo](https://galepages.com/mlin_w_rlputvo)



Let's take a look at the  
interdisciplinary & topical database  
Opposing Viewpoints



# Database Tools

Accessibility &  
Support for all  
Learners

[Mini Tutorial](#)

Cite

[Mini Tutorial](#)

Highlights & Notes

[Mini Tutorial](#)

Downloading &  
Exporting to  
OneDrive

[Mini Tutorial](#)

**Narrowing  
your  
research  
topic**



**Advanced Search**

**Topic Finder**

Mini Tutorial

Shareable, direct links to all  
individual databases



[https://mblc.state.ma.us/resource-sharing/databases/links.php?  
locid=m1n\\_w\\_rlputvo](https://mblc.state.ma.us/resource-sharing/databases/links.php?locid=m1n_w_rlputvo)

# Springfield Public Schools Portrait of a Graduate

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SPS Schools will prepare students to:

Make  
connections  
between their  
interests and  
possible  
career  
opportunities.

# Vocational Career Databases provided for free by the U.S. Department of Labor & Labor Statistics

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O\*Net  
Online

YouTube  
Channel

Occupational  
Outlook  
Handbook

YouTube  
Channel

Career  
OneStop

YouTube  
Channel



# Additional Library Services

In addition to providing experiences with & access to academic resources, information, ideas, and technology for all learners through databases, the librarian can also assist in:

## Academic

- The inquiry process (formulating questions about personal interests or curricular topics)
- The step-by-step research process
- The creation of rubrics for a variety of products that illustrate learning
- Providing opportunities for learners to share learning products and to reflect on the learning process with others using constructive feedback

## Vocational

- Career Research
- Researching employers before applying to jobs
- Researching employers to formulate questions before interviewing
- Effective resume writing
- Interview skills



**Thank you  
for participating!**



Please complete  
this  
survey.



# Citations

Gale, A Cengage Company. (2021, May 19). Training tools. Retrieved August 20, 2021, from <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL68197B5385B829DC>

Holland, B. (2017, October 26). Inquiry and the research process: Tips for ensuring that your students' research fosters genuine inquiry. Retrieved August 21, 2021, from <https://www.edutopia.org/article/inquiry-and-research-process>

Merriam-Webster Dictionary. (n.d.). Database. Retrieved August 21, 2021, from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/database>

Molasky Junior High School. (2019, October 06). Library databases vs search engines. Retrieved August 20, 2021, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y9zQGFNia8U&t=48s>

Springfield Public Schools. (2021). Portrait of a graduate. Retrieved August 20, 2021, from [https://www.springfieldpublicschools.com/parents/portrait\\_of\\_graduate](https://www.springfieldpublicschools.com/parents/portrait_of_graduate)

## Quick Links

Academic databases page direct link - [https://galepages.com/mlin\\_w\\_rlputvo](https://galepages.com/mlin_w_rlputvo)

Opposing Viewpoints database direct link - [https://libraries.state.ma.us/login?db=OVIC&locid=mlin\\_w\\_rlputvo](https://libraries.state.ma.us/login?db=OVIC&locid=mlin_w_rlputvo)

Putnam Library Services Survey - <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Y1DML1z1QE-2uLhF9rMBn2XBSEFw1K5JveamCHbZU3tUQVBXVDITUEVONVBaTkwwNzZTVFpLV0hUTC4u>

Putnam Library Website - <https://www.putnamvta.com/library>

Shareable links for individual academic databases - [https://mbic.state.ma.us/resource-sharing/databases/links.php?locid=mlin\\_w\\_rlputvo](https://mbic.state.ma.us/resource-sharing/databases/links.php?locid=mlin_w_rlputvo)

SPS Portrait of a Graduate - [https://p18cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_494605/File/SPS%20Portrait%20of%20a%20Graduate%20FINAL.pdf](https://p18cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_494605/File/SPS%20Portrait%20of%20a%20Graduate%20FINAL.pdf)



**Contact**  
**[browerl@springfield](mailto:browerl@springfieldpublicschools.com)**  
**[publicschools.com](http://publicschools.com)**  
**for more info about**  
**Putnam Library services**

