

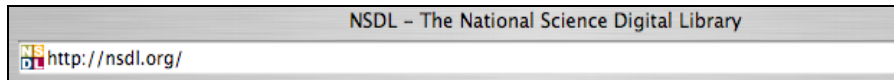
QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

How to Use NSDL in Five Minutes or Less

STEP 1

What do I do first?

Type NSDL.org into the address bar of your browser. You must be online to use NSDL.

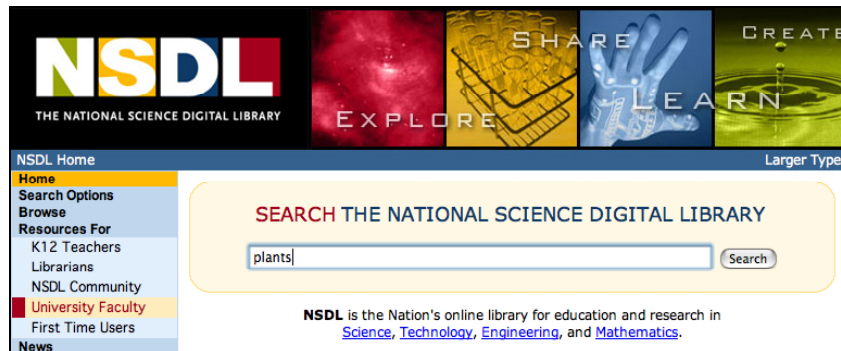


Then I...?

Type in one or more words in the big search box on the homepage and use your mouse to click the search button (or hit the 'Enter' key on your keyboard).

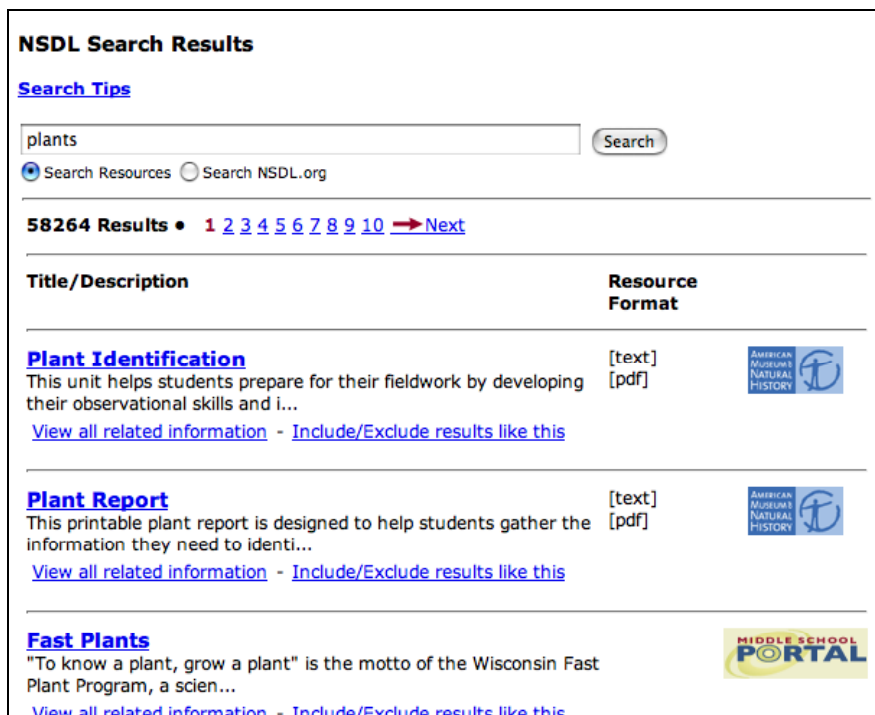
But I can't think
of the exact
word. How can I
look at some
topics?

Skip to Step 4.



What am I looking at?

This is the Search Results page. It lists all of the resources that match your search word(s).



STEP 2

How do I pick something? Quickly.

Look at the title. Look at the short description.


Do they describe a resource you could use?

NSDL Search Results

[Search Tips](#)

 Search Resources Search NSDL.org

58264 Results • [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#) → [Next](#)

Title/Description	Resource Format	
Plant Identification This unit helps students prepare for their fieldwork by developing their observational skills and i... View all related information - Include/Exclude results like this	[text] [pdf]	
Plant Report This printable plant report is designed to help students gather the information they need to identi... View all related information - Include/Exclude results like this	[text] [pdf]	
Fast Plants "To know a plant, grow a plant" is the motto of the Wisconsin Fast Plant Program, a scien... View all related information - Include/Exclude results like this		

Yes, the title and short description describe a resource I could use, now what do I do?

Go to Step 3.

No, the title and short description do not describe what I'm looking for.

Review a few more search results from the list.

Still don't see what you want?

Skip to Step 4.

One of these looks ok, but I'm not sure.

Click "View all related information."

Skim the Description.

Scroll down and look in the left column "Resource Information: Complete Citation Data."

Look at "Intended Audience."

Resource Information:	
Complete Citation Data	
Title	Plant Report
Subject Keyword(s)	Biology, Plants, Plants--Identification, Botanical specimens--Collection and preservation, Botany--Field work, Field work (Educational method)
Description	This printable plant report is designed to help students gather the information they need to identify their plant specimens. The two-page PDF form asks for the following information: leaf type, leaf arrangement, growth form, reproductive status, plant abundance, and general description. In addition, the plant record contains area for students to record their identification method/resources along with their level of confidence in the identification.
Resource type	application/pdf
Link	http://www.amnh.org/education/resources/rfi/pdf/plant_report.pdf
Language	en
Intended Audience	Grade 6, Grade 7, Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11, Grade 12

STEP 3

This resource looks useful. How do I get it?

Click on the title.

Search Results Page




NSDL Search Results

[Search Tips](#)

plants

Search Resources Search NSDL.org

58264 Results • [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#) [Next](#)

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Fast Plants "To know a plant, grow a plant" is the motto of the Wisconsin Fast Plant Program, a scien...		

"All Related Information" Page

Title:
[Plant Report](#)


Description:
This printable plant report is designed to help students gather the information they need to identify plant specimens. The two-page PDF form asks for the field number, reproductive status, plant abundance, and date. It also asks students to record their identification method/resource.

Archives:
• Archive data not available. [More](#)

Resource Information:
Complete Citation Data

Title
Plant Report

Voila! The Plant Report

 http://www.amnh.org/education/resources/rfl/pdf/plant_report.pdf

PLANT REPORT

For every new plant specimen you find, fill out this report.

How confident are you on your identification (check one):

Not sure

Very sure

Completely sure

Journal entry/observation date: _____
Division: _____
Family: _____
Genus: _____
Species: _____
Common name: _____
Nickname: _____

How do I use my resource?

Download it to your computer desktop.

Make it part of a lesson.

Make a lesson using the Instructional Architect tool: <http://ia.usu.edu>

STEP 4

From Step 1...

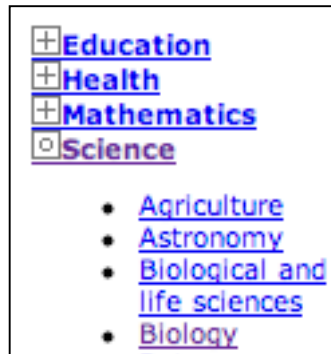
I can't think of the exact word to search for. How can I look at a topic?

Click on the [Browse](#) link in the column on the far left of the web page. (<http://nsdl.org/browse/index.php>)

Click Browse by Topic, the first option on the page.

Select a topic area.

Review the Search Results page. See [Step 2](#).

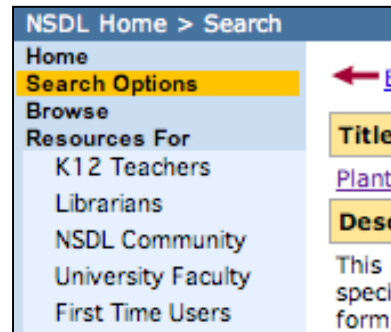


From Step 2...

Is there a way to change my search?

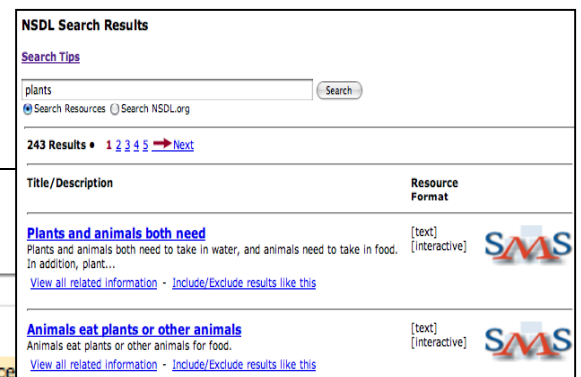
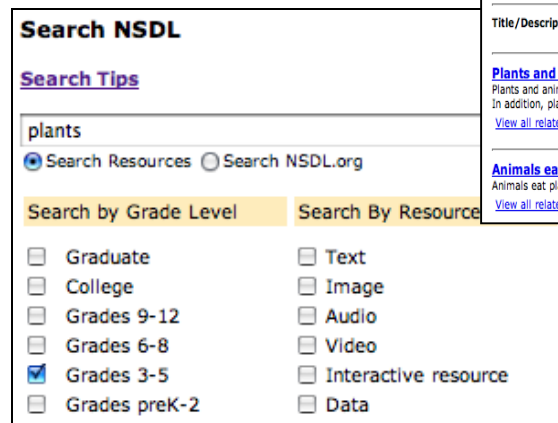
- **Nothing on the search results page looks useful.**
- **I have too many search results.**
- **I want a resource for a particular age group.**

Click on the [Search Options](#) link in the column on the far left of the web page. (<http://nsdl.org/search/index.php>)



Type in your search term or pick a new word(s) to search for. Click in the boxes to specify a Grade Level and Resource Format. Click Search.

Review the Search Results page. See [Step 2](#).



I still can't find a useful resource.

Review the list of Suggested Resources from Project Tomorrow

Review the NSDL Help pages (<http://nsdl.org/help/>)