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## Searchasaurus

**Searchasaurus** provides a fun and easy to use interface for children and adults. This database searches *EBSCO Animals*, *Funk & Wagnall New World Encyclopedia*, and databases that contain articles written for primary and middle grade students.

Access Searchasaurus at the K-12 schools Pioneer Library webpage. On that screen click EBSCO and then click on the word **Searchasaurus**.

The screenshot shows the Pioneer Library website interface. At the top left, there is a "Select Service" tab and a search bar containing the Pioneer Library logo. In the top right corner, there is a link for "EBSCO Host Support & Training". The main content area is organized into several sections, each with a logo and a list of links. The "EBSCO HOST" section is highlighted with a blue box, and an arrow points to the "Searchasaurus" link within this section. Other sections include "Business Searching" and "Student Research Center".

Service	Links
EBSCO HOST	<a href="#">Elementary School</a> <a href="#">Middle/Jr. High School</a> <a href="#">High School</a> <a href="#">College/University</a> <a href="#">All Databases</a> <a href="#">Searchasaurus</a>
EBSCO HOST	<a href="#">Espanol</a> <a href="#">Francais</a> <a href="#">Deutsch</a> <a href="#">All Databases</a>
Business Searching	<a href="#">Business Searching Interface</a>
Student Research Center	<a href="#">Student Research Center</a>
ARRC	<a href="#">Auto Repair Reference Center</a>

The Searchasaurus homepage connects you to a wonderful array of information and resources.

The screenshot shows the Searchasaurus homepage, which is designed to look like a map. At the top, it says "Searchasaurus Map" and "What would you like to search?". There are several search options represented by icons: a dictionary, a camera, a volcano, a dinosaur, and a house. Callout boxes point to these options with the following text:

- Search the **American Heritage Dictionary**
- Search EBSCO's **Encyclopedia of Animals**
- Search **Funk and Wagnall's New World Encyclopedia**
- Search through hundreds of **Pictures** on many topics
- Learn a **Fun Fact** each time you click on the volcano

At the bottom of the map, there are links for "General Encyclopedia Middle Search Plus", "Encyclopedia of Animals", "Primary Search", "Magazines", "Fun Facts", "Need Help?", "Tutorial", and "Exit". A copyright notice at the bottom reads: "©2005 EBSCO Publishing. [Privacy Policy](#) - [Terms of Use](#) - [Copyright](#)".



**Middle Search Plus**



**Primary Search**

**Middle Search Plus** and **Primary Search** allow students to access articles and magazines from the EBSCO databases. These two search engines have been developed to find materials suitable for the reading levels of primary school children (Primary Search) and middle school children (Middle Search Plus).

## Middle Search Plus

The search pages for **Middle Search Plus** and Primary Search look exactly the same. The only difference is that Middle Search Plus is connected to more articles and information.



Clicking on the **Dinosaur** will let you start a new search. If you get lost and want to return to the homepage, just click the **compass**.




### Let's Practice

1. On the search screen, enter your search terms in the **Search** field. Enter information about your students from the *Getting Started* section, question #7, "What skills do your students need most for the future?". Use the Boolean operators, **AND**, **OR**, **NOT** to narrow or expand your search.
2. Put a check mark in the box next to the statement **Please only find full text articles**. This will limit your search to articles that only have the full text in the database.
3. If you would like to narrow your search to articles within your students' lexile reading level, click the small **blue down arrow** and you will be able to choose a range. (Note: The 6 ranges offered roughly correspond to grades 1-6.)

4. Click the search button  to begin your search.

5. The result screen will then appear. Above your list of results is the number of matching **items** found in the databases.

The screenshot shows the Searchasaurus search results page. At the top left, there is a cartoon dinosaur wearing a yellow jacket and a backpack, pointing towards a search box. A speech bubble next to it says "Click me to start a new search". The search box contains the word "computers" and a pink "Search" button. Below the search box, the text reads "Check out your results below or enter new words to find, then click search." The results section shows "Searchasaurus found 882 items on: 'computers'" and a "Need help?" link. Below this, there are navigation controls for "Results 1-10 of 882" and "Pages: 1 2 3 4 5 >>". The first two results are listed:

1. [PRAISE YOUR MAILBOX.](#) By: Stricker, Eric. Transworld Skateboarding, Sep2005, Vol. 23 Issue 9, p18, 1p, 1bw; Reading Level (Lexile): [1070](#); (AN 17604582)  
2. [SOUR BERRIES?](#) By: Locke, Laura A.. Time, 8/15/2005, Vol. 166 Issue 7, pA4, 1/4p, 1c; Reading Level (Lexile): [1090](#); (AN 17848894) 

Searchasaurus shows the **Lexile number** for an article at the end of each result. All articles in the list correspond with your chosen **Lexile Reading Level**.

6. Choose one article and click on the **Title**. From this screen you can print or e-mail the article.