

Writing a Bibliography

What is a bibliography?

biblio = book

graph = writing

biblio + *graph* = bibliography = a list of books that you used for research

Why are bibliographies important?

When you write a bibliography to go along with your research report or presentation, you are giving credit to all the books (and authors) that gave you your information. It's important to tell what your sources were, especially if someone wants you to prove that what you say is true! By writing a bibliography, you are also providing a list of books to your audience that they could read if they wanted to know more about your subject.

What should a bibliography look like?

A bibliography should be on a separate page from the rest of your report, and it should say "Bibliography" at the top. Then, it should list all of your books (and other sources) **in alphabetical order, using the format below**. Make sure to skip a line between each item in your list.

Books

Author's Last Name, First Name. Book Title. City of publication: Publisher's name, Copyright date.

Example:

Greenfield, Eloise. Rosa Parks. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1973.

Encyclopedias (print)

"Article Title." Name of Encyclopedia (volume number). Copyright date: page numbers.

Example:

"Ant." World Book Encyclopedia (volume number), 1990: 45-49.

CD-ROM (Encyclopedia)

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Name of article." Name of Encyclopedia. CD-ROM. City: Publisher, Copyright date.

Example:

McGinnis, Terri. "Dog." The World Book Multimedia Encyclopedia. CD-ROM. Chicago: World Book, Inc., 1995.

Magazine Article

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." Name of Magazine Date: Page numbers.

Example:

Markham, Lois. "A Gallery of Great Native Americans." Kids Discover Aug.-Sep. 1966: 6-7.

Website

Author's Last Name, First Name (if listed). "Title." Main Website Name. Date created/revised. Institution. Date you saw it. <website address>

Example:

"Bones." Newton's Apple. National Science Teacher's Association. 3/10/00.
<<http://eric.syr.edu/Projects/Newton/14/bones12.htm>>

Interview

Interviewee's Last Name, First Name. Kind of interview. Date.

Example:

Goodkind, Mary. Personal interview. 9/4/96.

What was my source for this guide?

Corbett, Linda. "How Do I Make a Bibliography? A Guide for Elementary School Students." Lexington Public Schools Libraries. 11/23/05.
<<http://lps.lexingtonma.org/Libdept/elem.lib/ebib.html>>