Advanced Search Techniques

Library OneSearch

Enter search terms / topics here | SEARCH

Advanced Search >>

☑ Full Text ☐ Scholarly / Peer Reviewed

Articles & More | Ebooks | Journal Titles

Make your research **better, faster,** and **easier** by using these techniques when searching the Library.

Remember that research is a process.
Don't be afraid to experiment with different combinations of keywords and techniques to see how your results change!

Keyword Searching

Search only for the **most important words or phrases** in your topic.

Library databases work differently from Google.

Take your research question and pull out the most important words:

"How does **screen time** affect **children**?"

Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- screen time
- AND | children
- AND |

Synonyms

Include synonyms and other related words in your search.

Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- screen time OR internet use
- AND | children
- AND |

Using synonyms or related words will increase your search results.

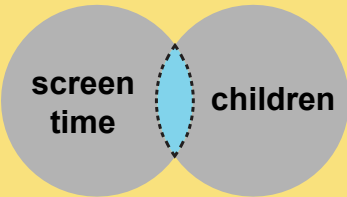## Boolean Searching: Using AND, OR, or NOT

Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- screen time
- AND | children
  - AND
  - OR
  - NOT

Use **AND** to find fewer results

Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- screen time
- OR | video games
  - AND
  - OR
  - NOT

Use **OR** to find more results
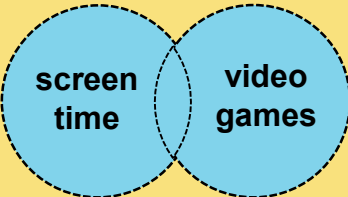
Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- screen time OR video games
- AND | children
- NOT | teenagers
  - AND
  - OR
  - NOT

Use **NOT** to exclude results

We can look at this using a Venn Diagram:

screen time | children
screen time **AND** children

screen time | video games
screen time **OR** video games
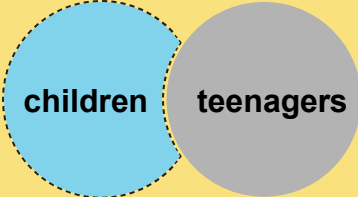
children | teenagers
children **NOT** teenagers

*use **NOT** sparingly to remove irrelevant results

Exact Phrasing

Use double quote marks (") around multiple words to find results with those **exact words** right next to each other, in that **exact order**.

Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- "screen time" OR smartphone
- AND | children
- AND | "mental health"

Truncation

Use an asterisk (*) at the end of a root word to search for words with the same or similar meaning. This will give you results with **multiple endings** and **spellings**.

Search for the root: **behav***

behav**e**
behav**ior**
behav**iour**
behav**ioral**

Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- screen time
- AND | children
- AND | behav*

Field Searching

Search for keywords in a specific field or category by changing the drop-down menu to the right of the search boxes.

Searching: **Library OneSearch**
- screen time | SU Subject Terms
- AND | children | Sele...
  - Select a Field (optional)
  - TX All Text
  - AU Author
  - TI Title
  - SU Subject Terms
  - SO Journal Title/Source
  - AB Abstract

TI Title: keywords appear in the **title** of your results

SU Subject Terms: keywords appear in the **subject headings** associated with your results

AB Abstract: keywords appear in the **abstract or summary** of your results