



# Library Research Tips

## Print & Electronic Books

Type	Description	Examples
Textbooks	Provide a good general overview and understanding of a topic.	<i>Accounting 101</i>
Encyclopedias	General encyclopedias try to summarize all knowledge. Subject-specific encyclopedias focus on a topic such as health or the environment.	<i>Encyclopedia of Applied Physics</i> <i>Canadian Encyclopedia</i>
Dictionaries	Provide shorter definitions and summaries of terms. Like encyclopedias, dictionaries can be general or subject-specific.	<i>CRC Dictionary of Agricultural Sciences</i> <i>Oxford's English Dictionary</i>
Handbooks, Manuals, Guides	Provide quick facts, formulas, equations, or names and addresses for a particular subject.	<i>Marks' Standard Handbook for Mechanical Engineers</i>
Atlases	Provide information in map or cartographic form. Some atlases also describe historical events or social issues in map form.	<i>Nelson Canadian Atlas</i> <i>Canadian Oxford World Atlas</i>
Statistical Compilations	Describe issues, events, and topics with data. Most statistical compilations are published by provincial, federal, or international agencies.	<i>Statistical Abstracts</i> <i>Socio-economic and land use system (SELUS)</i>
Almanacs	Provide quick facts, either for all subjects or for subject-specific topics.	<i>Canadian Almanac and Directory</i>

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