SIRS Discoverer is an award-winning reference database for children in grades 1-9 which promotes research, reading, writing, language and computer skills. All of the full-text articles and graphics are carefully evaluated and selected from over 1,600 domestic and international publications. Articles are assigned reading levels based on their educational content, interest and readability level so researchers can choose material that is suitable for their grade and ability level. In addition to magazine and newspaper articles, the database content includes an encyclopedia, Biographies of U.S. Presidents, Country Facts, and *The World Almanac for Kids*.

> Computer commands, field names and mouse actions are in *Italics*.
> Text that you must type is within single quote marks (' ')

Go to: **RCPL Web site (http://www.myrcpl.com)**
Hover over: ***Research and Learning***
Click on: ***Research Tools***
Click on: ***News and Magazines***
Find: ***SIRS Discoverer*** and click ***inside the library*** or ***home access.***

☆ After each question click on *Home Page* in upper left corner to begin a new question

1. I am in seventh grade, and need to do a report on the flu vaccine.
- ❑ Click on: *Keyword/Natural Language* radio button
- ❑ Type: ''flu vaccine" in the search box (use quotation marks)
- ❑ Click on: *Search*
- ❑ Select: *Challenging* (red box) or *Moderate* (blue box) reading level articles depending on reading ability

2. I need to do a report on vaccines, but a lot of the articles I found are too technical. Can you help me find some easier ones that I can understand? I am in fourth grade.
- ❑ Click on: *Subject Headings* radio button
- ❑ Type: 'vaccines'
- ❑ Click on: *Search*
- ❑ Click on: *Vaccines* in the alphabetical list of subject headings
- ❑ Select: *Easy* (green box) or *Moderate* (blue box) reading level articles

3. I have to do a report on an animal, but I don't know which one to pick. Is there any way I can browse through some articles about animals, and check out some specific kinds of animals?
- ❑ Click on: *Animals* in *Browse Subject Tree* box
- ❑ Click on: desired article, or one of the *Topics/subtopics* listed at the right

Tip: Clicking on *Mammals* results in a list of articles about mammals, plus a new list of *Topics/subtopics* for browsing, including the names of specific mammals

4. How can I find a picture of a panda?
- ❑ Click on: *Pictures* in the list of *Database Features* found at the lower right corner of the *Home Page* screen
- ❑ Type: 'panda' in the *Picture Search:* box
- ❑ Click on: *Search*
- ❑ Click on: the listed panda pictures until you find the one you want

Tip*: After clicking on a picture, you can see the article it appeared in by clicking the title of the article after *Picture for article:* at the top of the screen

5. I think I'd like to be an architect. Where can I read about some architects and find out what they do?
- ❑ Click on: *Notable People* in the Browse Subject Tree box
- ❑ Click on: *Architects* in the alphabetical list of Topics/subtopics: listed at the right;

Note: several articles relate to career information in addition to the articles about specific architects

6. I have to do a social studies report on Paraguay. I need to include a map and a picture of the flag, and tell something about the country.
- ❑ Click on: *Countries* in the Browse Subject Tree box
- ❑ Click on: *Paraguay* in the alphabetical list of Topics/subtopics: listed at the right
- ❑ Click on: *Pictures* tab at the top of the results screen to access flag and maps
- ❑ Click on: *Paraguay: Flag* to see a picture of the flag
- ❑ Click on: *Paraguay* to see maps (two different types – one will have a printable PDF version)

7. I'd like to learn how to do some magic tricks.
- ❑ Click on: *Activities* in the list of Database Features found at the lower right corner of the Home Page screen
- ❑ Click on: *magic & tricks* in the alphabetical list of Activities

Alternative search:
- ❑ Click on: *Kids Corner* in Browse Subject Tree box
- ❑ Click on: *Magic & Tricks* in the alphabetical list of Topics/subtopics: listed at the right
- ❑ Select: articles with a red "a" following the title to indicate that activities are included

8. I have to do a project for the Science Fair and I don't know what to do. Where can I find some ideas for a good science project?
- ❑ Click on: *Activities* in the list of Database Features found at the lower right corner of the Home Page screen
- ❑ Click on: *science & nature projects* in the alphabetical list of Activities
- ❑ Select: an article on a subject of interest that matches your reading level

9. I need some biographical information about Andre Agassi.
- ☐ Click on: *Biographies* in the list of Database Features found at the lower right corner of the Home Page screen
- ☐ Click on: *Agassi, Andre*
- ☐ Click on: article title to read biography
- ☐ Click on: camera icon to see Agassi's picture

10. I'd like some articles on Gerald Ford, and how he became president of the United States.
- ❑ Click on: *Notable People* in the Browse Subject Tree box
- ❑ Click on: *U.S. Presidents* in the alphabetical list of Topics/subtopics: listed at the right
- ❑ Click on: *Ford, Gerald Rudolph* in the alphabetical list of Topics/subtopics: listed at the right