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Research

Libraries are known to be places of research. Research is used in several ways. For instance, research is used in projects, for scientific hypotheses, for book reports, and how to take care of the important things in life such as how to handle taxes, fix a car, pay mortgages, how to handle bank accounts, how to cook a certain recipe, etc. What better place to look for research items than at the library. Learning how to research can be tough but with the knowledge and information together, research can be easy. Without the knowledge and information, then research can be difficult. In order to make research possible, you need to come up with the exact questions to help you and the librarian out. Researching is a process but it is worthwhile even if it is at a place where knowledge can be obtained.

Our world is filled with a culture that wants to have answers right away. If answers are needed immediately, what better research tool than your technological device. For example, at my local library, the Gaston County Public Library, I have seen mainly the teenagers at the Young Adult section of the library using their tablets and other electronic devices for play or just for contacting people through social media. In some public libraries, research can be done just by a touch of a finger on a mobile device and their answer shows up like a blink of an eye.

<C:\Users\dtaul\Documents\Libguide Warm-up C.docx> In other situations, research is established through Part 1 of the ALA Code of Ethics which states “we provide the highest level of service to all library users through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable service policies; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all requests.”¹ There are so many services that patrons can use for research purposes. For instance, free access to books, articles, videos, and other online materials through the libraries’ databases are what is being provided in the library. Having this free access is under Parts 1-4 of the Library Bill of Rights that states: “Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation...”² Having free access of materials for research is very important to have especially if they would want online research tools. For instance, when I was doing a reference interview with one of my colleagues at the library, I introduced her to one specific service for research: Interlibrary Loan. This research service helps the patron to find a certain book that is not located at the main library but at a different library and requesting for it. [Working with a Client.docx](#)

¹ Smith, Linda. C., & Wong, Melissa. A. (2017). *Reference and Information Services: An Introduction* (5th ed.). Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited. 43.

² Ibid. 53.

Having online research tools can also be helpful. One online research tool that all types of libraries have is the libguide. Libguides are online library guides that help patrons know how to write papers, how to do research on a certain topic, and also gives some book titles, websites, and other related sources that would help make research easier to do. Some patrons have access to these libguides but some libguides may have limited access if you are a student in high school or college. [Libguide Warm-up B.docx](#) Databases and online resources are very resourceful when it comes to research but if you do not know how to do it, then who better to ask for research tips and how to do a proper research than your librarian.

In conclusion, research is a key tool when entering the library. Whichever library you are in, research is done in several ways. The two most common research tips that every library has are the reference interview and libguides or online databases. Doing a reference interview will help make the learning process of research easier for both the patron and the librarian and learning how to find certain topics on libguides or online databases also makes research more profitable. Research is key when entering the library. Without the value of research, the library would be just a place to read.

Bibliography

Smith, Linda. C., & Wong, Melissa. A. (2017). *Reference and Information Services: An Introduction* (5th ed.). Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.