

Guide to...

Early Childhood Education

1. Quick Search for books, e-books and other materials.

The Library website Quick Search enables searching a wide variety of resources, such as books, e-books, journal articles and newspapers.

It is advisable to log in with your University Login username and password before searching as this will allow easy access to all materials. **Login to the Library** can be found on the right of the library website home page at www.libweb.anglia.ac.uk.

Type the subject or title you are looking for into the **Find results with** box. You can also select which materials you wish to search for by clicking on the tick boxes next to each option. Selecting **Journal articles, research papers etc** will search general academic databases and display results for journal articles in a separate tab.

For example, if you wish to find a copy of 'The Good Study Guide by Andrew Northedge', type the title of the book into the search box and click on 'Go'.

The results list for the **Books, etc.** tab will show all items relating to the subject or title entered.

Click on the title of the book to find out more details about it. Note where it can be found on the shelves, at which sites and how many copies are currently in stock.

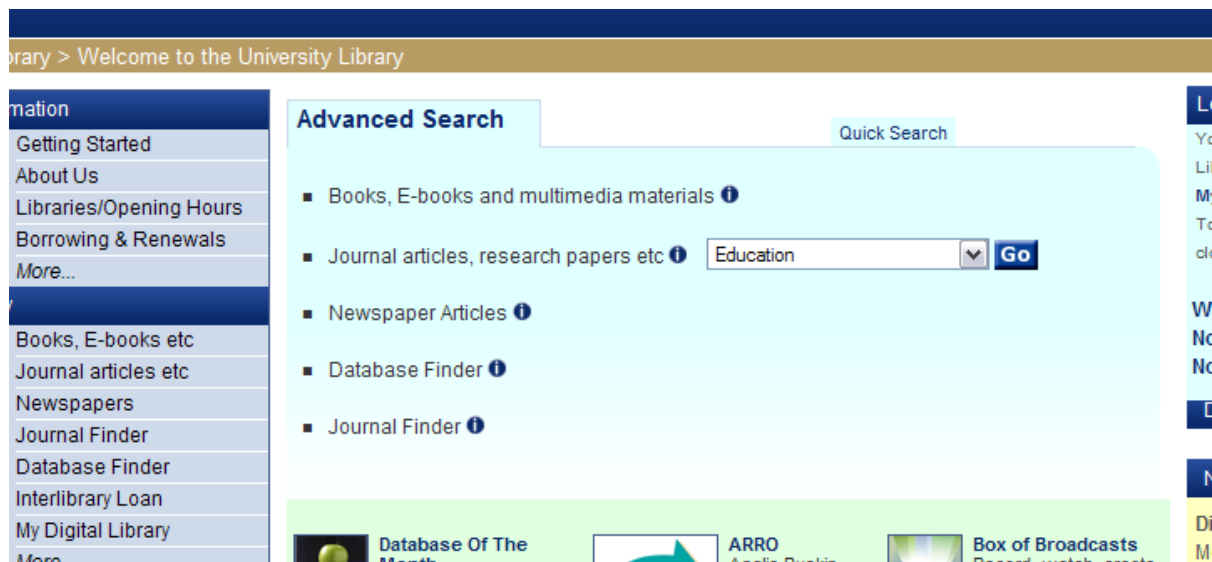
You can also reserve items currently on loan from this screen.

Electronic copies of books (e-books) can also be accessed from the Quick Search screen. The Library has an increasing number of books available in this format. To narrow down your search to e-books only, select e-books from the **Limit To** option. You will need to log in before accessing e-books.

2. Advanced Search for journal articles and web resources.

The Library web site Advanced Search for Education offers more specific subject specialist sources such as academic journal databases.

Login to the Library website and click on the Advanced Search tab in the centre of the screen; select 'Education' from the **Choose Subject** box. You can then focus on a category and search recommended resources.



3. Journals

Journals provide up to date information on developments and research in Education. The University Library holds a wide selection of journals in paper and electronic formats. There are four main types of journals, meeting different needs:

Scholarship and Research:

Academically highly rated and challenging. They represent the 'cutting edge' of research and thinking in their respective fields. Usually articles are 'peer-reviewed' or 'refereed' (meaning that experts have scrutinised the articles before publication). Example: International Journal of Early Years Education.

Practice:

Journals that provide advice on professional practice; not held in as high regard, academically as Scholarship and Research Journals but may have the same standard of writing quality and are held in high regard by practitioners. Example: Early Years Educator.

Special Interest:

Journals that cover a specific topic in education. Held in high regard for gathering research in their area and or putting ideas into practice. Also useful in raising awareness of that specific area in the political/public arenas. Example: Support for Learning.

Current Awareness:

Journals published on a weekly/monthly basis, providing investigations, information and comment on current issues. Example: Nursery World.

A selection of journals you will find recommended in module guides:

Childhood

Children & Society

Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood

Early Childhood Educational Journal

Early Childhood Research and Practice

Early Childhood Research Quarterly
Early Years
Early Years: Journal of International Research & Development
Education 3 – 13
European Early Childhood Education Research Journal
International Journal of Early Years Education

Journals can be found either by using the library website Advanced Search or by selecting Journal Finder from the Digital Library menu. If the article you are looking for is not held either electronically or in print, a copy can be obtained from the British Library as an Inter Library Loan for a fee of £2.

4. Databases

Accessible via Advanced Search, selected databases index the contents of journal articles, conference reports and government papers on the subject of early childhood education. Select 'Education' from the drop down subject menu. You can narrow down to specific subjects, such as childhood studies.

Main Databases:

BEI – British Education Index

Covers over 300 education and training journals published in Britain with some English language education journals from Europe. Coverage also includes monographs, reports and conference proceedings in the Education-line collection. Full text linking is available.

ERIC – Education Resources Information Centre

More international in scope, ERIC covers over 1,000 journals in the fields of Education and related subjects. Coverage goes back to 1966.

Professional Development Collection

Links to full text articles for over 520 journals, covering everything from child health and development to cutting edge pedagogical theory.

Social Policy and Practice (Including ChildData)

Database with a strong emphasis on the social care of children. Contains information and grey literature from local government, charities and the voluntary sector. Very useful for applied research and practice information.

5. Reference and Statistics

Education law:

The most effective way to find cases, legislation and journal articles on a specific subject or topic is to use a law database such as Lexis or Westlaw.

Policy Documents, Speeches and Reports

N.B.: After the 2010 General Election, the 'Department for Children, Schools and Families' changed its name to the 'Department for Education'.

It is worth keeping in mind that policies implemented by the previous government may no longer be in force.

Government policy documents published in the last 10 years are likely to be available online from Departmental websites. These can be tracked down via Google: www.google.co.uk , select 'Pages from the UK' and give the name of the Government Department to find the document. Older documents may be held in the Library. Check the Library Quick search for details.



Major speeches from Ministers from the Department for Education are available from the DfE website: www.education.gov.uk/news/speeches

Statistics

Statistical data can be found online at the National Statistics website: www.ons.gov.uk and other links available on the University Library web site under Quick Reference.

Government statistics for education are also available via the Department for Education Research and Statistics Gateway: www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/index.shtml

6. Research in Early Childhood Education

Current research can be traced using the Library website 'Advanced Search' for Education, with a sub-category for research.

Resources include:

Index to Theses (UK) (available via the Digital Library)

Online Tutorials for locating sources of Education research at:

www.vtstutorials.co.uk/

See also the Library Web pages on research at:

www.libweb.anglia.ac.uk/others/research/research2.htm

Google Scholar covers peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, abstracts, and other scholarly literature from all broad areas of research. The University Library has registered its holdings with Google so, after logging in to the Digital Library, its electronic collections can be accessed directly via the Google Scholar interface. It is now possible to search Google Scholar and link directly to the full text of journal articles where they are available at

Anglia Ruskin. Additional information is available on our website at www.libweb.anglia.ac.uk/scholar.htm

7. Resources from other Libraries

Books and journal articles that are not available either printed or online from any of the University Library sites may be obtained by Inter-Library Loan (I.L.L.) The form can be found by logging into the Library website and then selecting Inter-Library-Loan from the left-hand menu. There is a charge of £2 per item.

Library catalogues may be available online, for example, the Institute of Education, University of London at: www.ioe.ac.uk/services/4389.html

Other libraries may offer access to their collections provided that certain criteria are met. Check the University Library Website at:

www.libweb.anglia.ac.uk/helpdesk/others.htm for more information.

8. Help

If you need more help with your research please ask at the Enquiry Desk at your site Library or use our 'Ask Us' service: www.libweb.anglia.ac.uk/askus/

If your enquiry is lengthy, you can make an appointment with a member of your subject team. You can do this through the Book A Librarian service:

www.libweb.anglia.ac.uk/bookalibrarian/index_bal.html

We can also offer seminars and workshops for small groups; please contact:

Chelmsford:

Carol McMaster: Faculty Liaison Librarian (carol.mcmaster@anglia.ac.uk)

0845 196 4643

Rebecca Mackle, Assistant Librarian (rebecca.mackle@anglia.ac.uk)

0845 196 4623.

Cambridge:

Andrew Bethune, Assistant Librarian (andrew.bethune@anglia.ac.uk)

0845 196 5022