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How EBSCO's K-12 databases and resources compare to free internet search engines

FOCUS	Elementary and Middle School Library Resources offered by EBSCO	Resources from Free Internet Search Engines
Database Content	Licensed from reputable publishers, recognized by school library professionals and selected for use in a school environment.	Depth of content cannot be matched due to publisher/artist copyright protection.
Advertisements	No ads. No angles. No "phishing" for personal data. Just information to match student and educator needs.	Most content is ad-sponsored. Ads are distracting, often misleading and can be explicit. Result lists also hide true motives such as "phishing" or sales.
Safe Searching	Password-protected logins make EBSCO products a safe resource for children, preteens and teens.	Incorporating safety features wastes time and may be ineffective.
COPPA Compliancy	EBSCO Publishing will never ask for a student's name or personal information for any of its product features.	Most sites linked to and from free search services are not COPPA compliant.
Reading Support	Dictionary features help students build vocabulary and deepen reading comprehension skills.	No related feature available for elementary and middle school students.
Reading Levels	Articles are assigned Lexiles - users can locate materials suited to individual or group reading needs.	No results by reading level.
Information Literacy Support	"Scavenger Hunts" correlated to Big6 Skills and AASL Information Literacy standards facilitate student experience with online research resources.*	No similar feature available for elementary and middle school students.
Citation & Bibliographic Assistance	Students can save, print and e-mail search results with current citation formats, and also peruse Citation Help without leaving the database.	No similar feature available for elementary and middle school students.
Article Summaries	Helps students and teachers quickly assess information, practicing essential skills for reading comprehension.	Result descriptions are driven by keyword searches and may not truly reflect content or relevance.
Children's Interface	Full of graphic-rich designs, <i>Searchasaurus</i> and <i>Kids Search</i> are easily accessible and fun to use, making online research attractive to younger students.	No similar feature available for elementary and middle school students.
Saved Research Repository	Students can save search results in a password-protected folder, offering a secure and organized holding area.	Not offered by free search engines such as Google and Yahoo.
Success Tools	Free Access to selected thematic units, lesson plans, writing and research guides, and educator-approved websites for Students, Teachers & Librarians.*	No related feature available.
Training	Free online courses offered monthly on a variety of topics, as well as onsite training and Professional Continuing Education workshops on curriculum integration & related strategies. See: http://support.ebsco.com/training	No related support feature available.
Instructional Support	Dozens of free instructional handouts and short (3-5 minute) tutorials to aid students with research.	No related support feature available.

*Please visit EBSCO's online Customer Success Center at http://ebscohost.com/customer_success