

# Searching The Web

## Activity Instructions

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The purpose of this activity is to become more familiar with search engines to find desired information. Start by selecting a topic of interest and then searching for information related to the topic. Do this by using three of the four Search Engines/Subject Guides listed. Record your topic, keywords, and results in the boxes. Each search should use a different search engine/subject guide. Different search engines have different advanced search techniques; they each provide information on how to utilize their service.

## Search Engines/Subject Guides

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Yahoo  
<http://www.yahoo.com>

Excite  
<http://www.excite.com>

Hotbot  
<http://www.hotbot.com>

AltaVista  
<http://altavista.digital.com>

## Search Data

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**Your Topic:**

(e.g., heart attacks)

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**Key Words or Phrases:**

(e.g., heart attack, stroke,  
heart failure, cardiac arrest)

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## First Search

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**Site Used:**

(e.g., Yahoo, Excite)

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**Key Words or Phrases**

**Used:**

(e.g., Boolean search: heart  
AND (attack OR failure)

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**Results:**

(i.e., number of returns or  
hits, sites found, did you like  
the Search Engine/Subject  
Guide?)

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## Second Search

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**Jumping Off Site used:**

(e.g., Yahoo, Excite)

**Key Words or Phrases used:**

(e.g., Boolean search: heart AND (attack OR failure))

**Results:**

(i.e., number of returns or hits, sites found, did you like the Search Engine/Subject Guide?)

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## Third Search

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**Jumping Off Site used:**

(e.g., Yahoo, Excite)

**Key Words or Phrases used:**

(e.g., Boolean search: heart AND (attack OR failure))

**Results:**

(i.e., number of returns or hits, sites found, did you like the Search Engine/Subject Guide?)

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