



STATE LIBRARY⁷
QUEENSLAND

Year 7

Biological Sciences

Student research guide

Cover: [Breathtaking underwater view of coral on the Great Barrier Reef, 1984](#), 1984, Ron Gale, [Ron and Ngaire Gale Collection ca. 1980s](#), State Library of Queensland. Image number: 410-01-37. [CC-BY 4.0](#)

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Date prepared: 24 November 2023

Date revised: 04 March 2026

Copyright information for teachers

This research guide is designed for individual use by students.

Please note, due to licensing arrangements, State Library of Queensland's subscription databases and ebooks are for private research and study purposes only. They may not be used as teaching resources in classroom environments in schools or other educational institutions and students must not be required to access specific databases or ebooks as part of the curriculum.

Teachers can advise students on State Library's resources and encourage their use to help with their studies and research. Students are encouraged to access State Library's resources at school, but not during class time.

Teachers are most welcome to advise students what is available via State Library, and to encourage students to make use of ebooks and databases to help with their studies. It is permissible for a teacher to demonstrate the use of State Library's catalogue, and to point out how various online material can be accessed.

It is also permissible for students to access State Library's online resources at school – but this must not be during class time. An example of permitted use might be where students have a spare period when they work on assignments or homework, and they are accessing databases as private members of State Library. Information about joining State Library is [here](#).

Please also note that State Library has digitised a range of material such as diaries, and out of copyright publications held in our collections. There are no restrictions on the use of this material as part of a teaching program – and no requirement to be a member of the library to use this material. This type of material can easily be found, [searching State Library's One Search catalogue](#) using the "SLQ digitised collections" option in the dropdown menu.

For more information about the use of copyright materials visit [Understanding copyright](#).

Overview

As Queensland's leading research library, State Library is a great place to find information to complete your research-based assessments.

State Library's One Search catalogue is the gateway to an extensive suite of national and international journals, databases, ebooks, encyclopedias, newspaper archives, and collections of thousands of historical images, letters, artworks, diaries, and artefacts to interrogate as sources.

Before you get started

- [Become a member](#) of State Library of Queensland (it's free!).
- Once you have joined State Library, log in to your account in [One Search](#) so you can use the links in this research guide to access the featured collection items.
- Complete the [Student research with State Library](#) module for a guide to navigating State Library's resources. Or visit the [One Search help page](#) for tips & tricks for searching One Search.

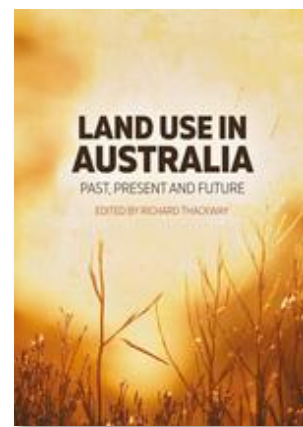
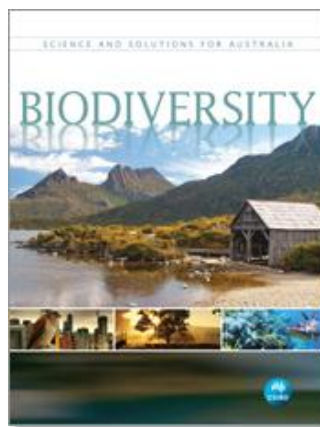
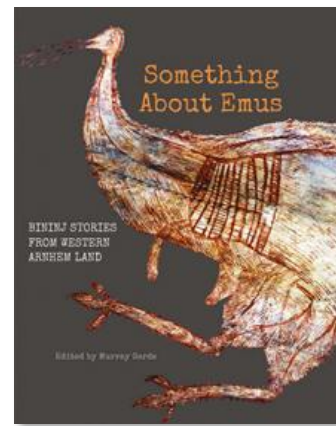
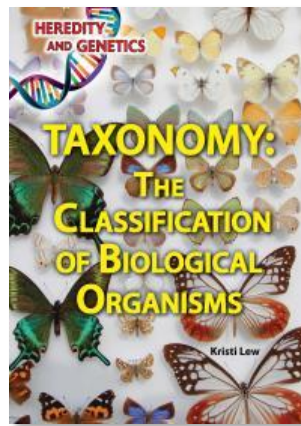
Student research with State Library

Feel more confident navigating State Library's resources to find high quality information sources for your assessments.

[Start module](#) 



Featured ebooks & publications



Order and Classification

Investigate the role of classification in ordering and organising the diversity of life on Earth and use and develop classification tools including dichotomous keys.

- Observing and identifying the similarities and differences of particular features within and between groups of organisms.
- Creating and modifying a dichotomous key to classify organisms into groups and groups within groups.
- Naming and classifying species using scientific conventions from the Linnaean hierarchical classification system, such as kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species.
- Considering the reasons for classifying living things, such as identification and communication.
- Examining how biological classification has changed over time through improvements in microscopy.
- Using provided dichotomous keys to identify organisms surveyed.
- Investigating First Nations Australians' systems of classifying living things and how these systems differ from those used by contemporary science.

Food Webs and Ecosystems

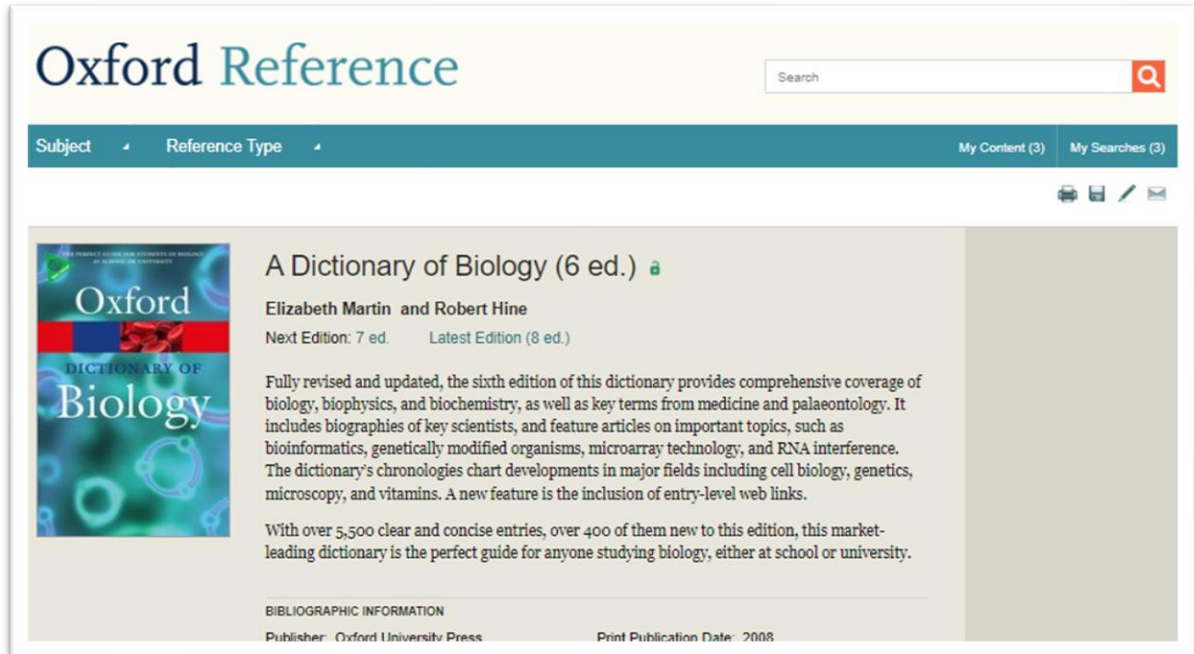
Use models, including food webs, to represent matter and energy flow in ecosystems and predict the impact of changing abiotic and biotic factors on populations.

- analysing food webs to show feeding relationships between organisms in an ecosystem and the role of microorganisms.
- modelling how energy flows into and out of an ecosystem via the pathways of food webs.
- predicting the effects on local ecosystems when living things such as pollinators or predators are removed from or die out in an area.
- examining how events such as seasonal changes, destruction of habitat or introduction of a species impact abiotic and biotic factors and cause changes to populations.
- investigating First Nations Australians' responses to invasive species and their effect on food webs that many communities are a part of, and depend on, for produce and medicine.
- considering how First Nations Australians' fire management practices over tens of thousands of years have changed the distribution of flora and fauna in most regions of Australia.

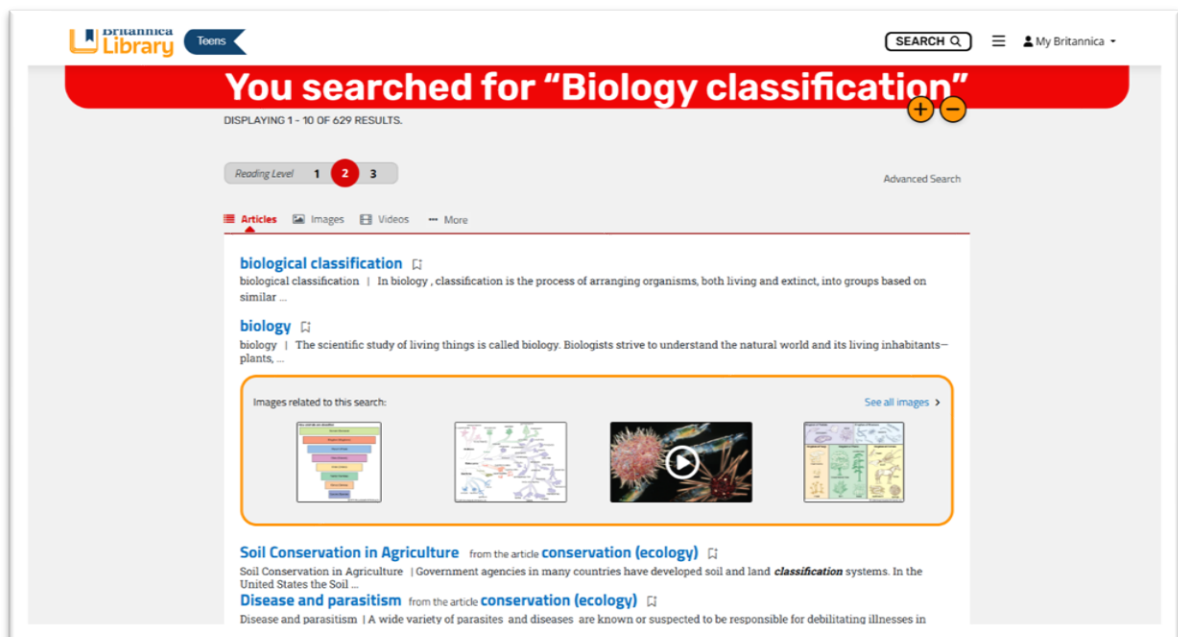
Featured databases

For easy reference

[Oxford Reference](#) spans 25 different subject areas, bringing together 2 million digitised entries across Oxford University Press's dictionaries, companions, and encyclopedias.



The [Britannica Library](#) has articles, images and more, with a selection of resources especially for teenagers.



For engaging reading

[National Geographic Virtual Library](#) is a powerful tool for research offering access to over 100+ years of magazines and hundreds of books, maps, videos, and images.

1. CONTENT TYPES

arch Terms: Keyword: diversity of species [Revise Search](#)

FEATURED ARTICLES (73)



Can Forensic Science Stop the Illegal Wildlife Trade?
Authors: Joshua Hammer and Britta Jaschinski
Publication: [National Geographic Magazine](#)
Friday, Aug. 2025 Volume 248, Issue 02 page 47 Article
Found In [National Geographic Archive](#) 1995+

Keyword Preview



River Into Sea
Authors: Thomas Peschak and Angelo Bernardino
Publication: [National Geographic Magazine](#)
Tuesday, Oct. 2024 Volume 246, Issue 04 page 121 Article
Found In [National Geographic Archive](#) 1995+

Keyword Preview



Defenders of the Reef
Authors: Gleb Raygorodetsky and Kilili Yüyan
Publication: [National Geographic Magazine](#)
Monday, July 2024 Volume 246, Issue 01 page 22 Article
Found In [National Geographic Archive](#) 1995+

Keyword Preview

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The [Australian Institute Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies](#) is a powerful tool for First Nations reading and research. Their online database and research projects can provide incredible insight into science from the First Nations perspective.



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Ngurrara 2 way learning project



Publication date
Wednesday, 1 June 2016

Type
Presentation

Event
2016 National Native Title Conference

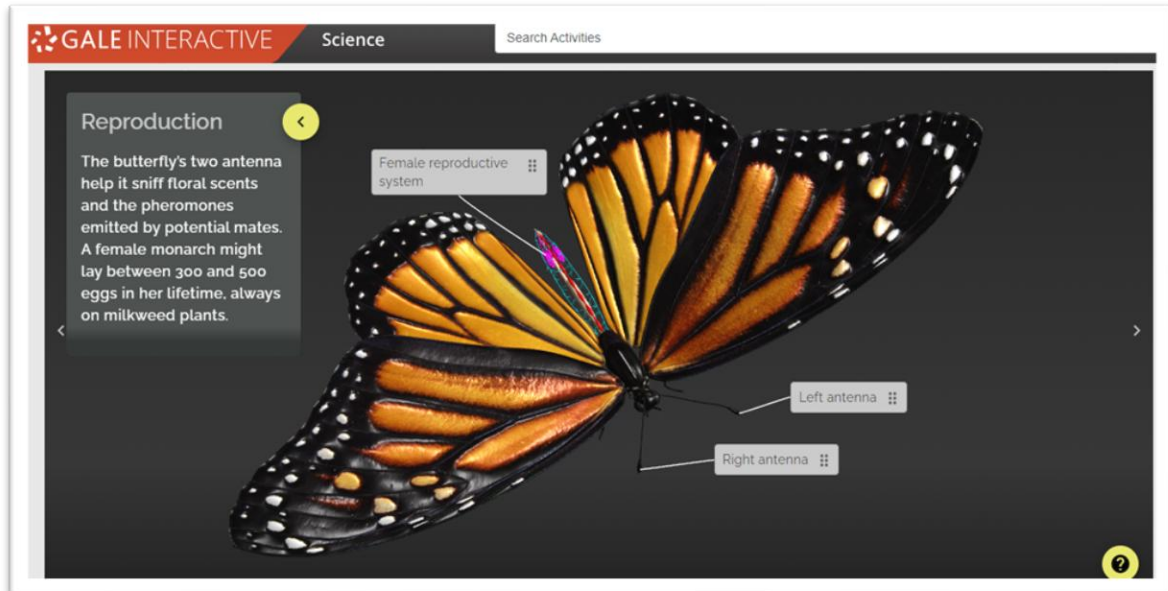
Brendan Fox , Peter Murray

Attachment/s
[presentation.pdf \(PDF, 15.64 MB\)](#) >

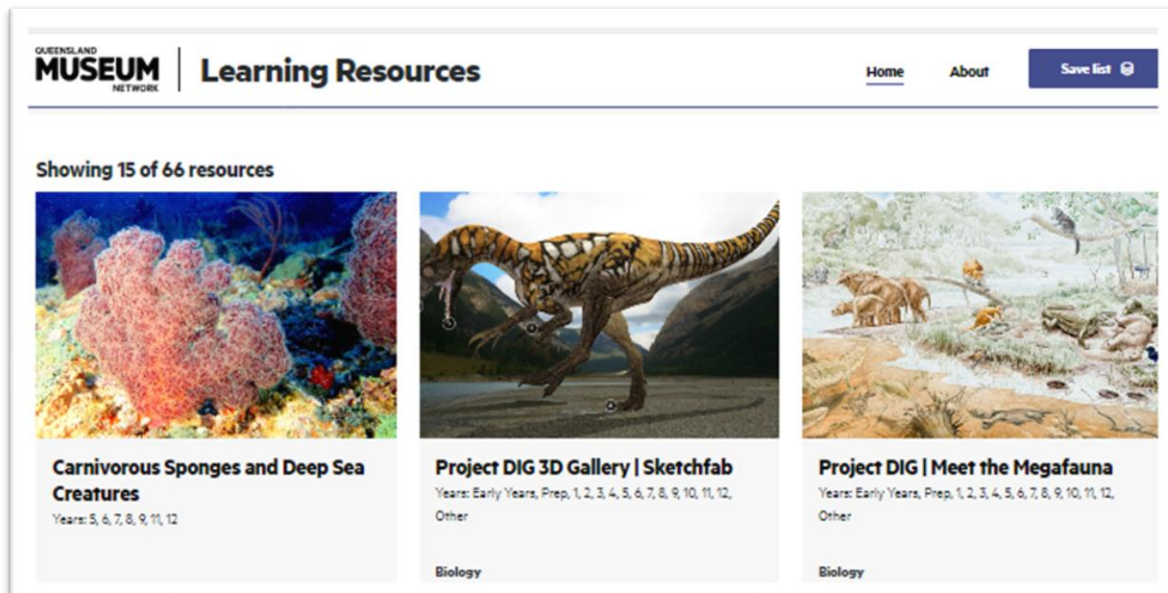
Specialist databases

Science

[Gale Interactive: Science](#) provides a comprehensive view of the most-studied science subjects. Authoritative, high-quality digital content is paired with interactive 3D models.



[Queensland Museum](#) provide Learning Resources website students with many activities, fact sheets, images, and videos.



More research

Borrow items

Order items online through State Library's One Search catalogue and [borrow items from State Library's collections](#) when you visit us onsite.

Ask a librarian

[State Library staff](#) are available to advise on keywords and search strategies and suggest databases to help you carry out independent research.

Please note that librarians can guide and support your research process, but they cannot complete your assessment, select sources for you or provide answers to assessment questions.

Visit State Library with your class

Ask your teacher to [bring your classroom to State Library](#) and explore exhibitions, research for your assessments or undertake independent study.