



STATE LIBRARY⁷
QUEENSLAND

Year 8

Biological Sciences

Student research guide

Cover: [Hospital staff member looking through a microscope, Dalby, 2013](#), Jacqueline Bawtree,
[Queensland Small Towns Documentary Project photographs](#), State Library of Queensland. Image number: 29871-0002-0011.

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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](#).

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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.
- You can search our [OneSearch catalogue](#) or begin exploring by clicking on some of the featured items contained in this research guide.

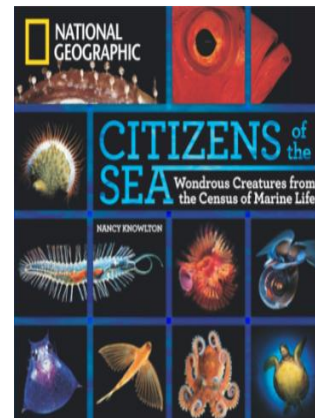
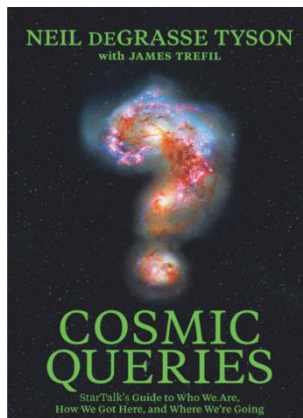
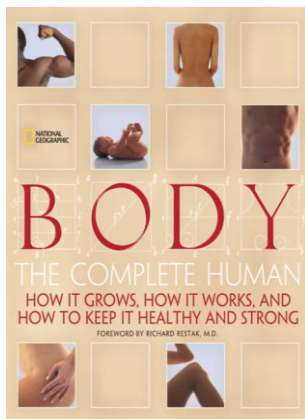
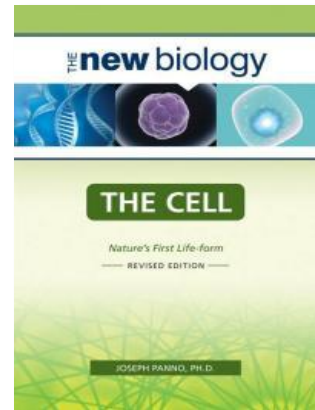
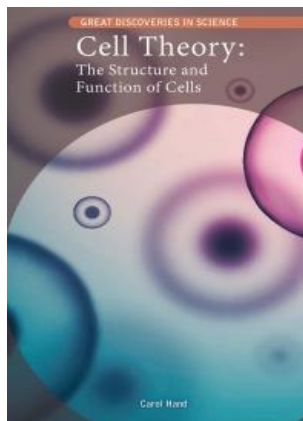
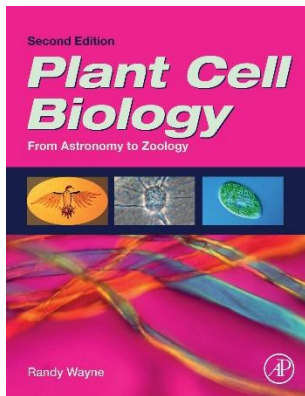
Student research with State Library

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

[Start module](#) 



Featured ebooks



Cells: The Building Blocks

Recognise cells as the basic units of living things, compare plant and animal cells, and describe the functions of specialised cell structures and organelles.

- Exploring an augmented or virtual reality tour of a plant or animal to ‘zoom in’ and understand the scale of cells.
- Identifying the structure and function of organelles in cells including the nucleus, cell membrane, cell wall, cytoplasm, chloroplasts and vacuoles.
- Examining a variety of cells, including single-celled organisms, using a light microscope, a digital microscope, simulations and photomicrographs.
- Comparing the similarities and differences of plant cells and animal cells visible with a light microscope and represented in a digital or physical model.
- Designing a physical or digital model of a cell and explaining how the representation models the cell.
- Considering how the invention of the microscope has contributed to understanding of cell structure.

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 screenshot shows the Oxford Reference website interface. At the top, the 'Oxford Reference' logo is on the left, and a search bar is on the right. Below the logo, there are tabs for 'Subject' and 'Reference Type'. The search results page is titled 'Oxford Reference Search Results'. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Signed in as: State Library of Queensland' and a 'Narrow Your Choices' section with 'REFINE TERMS'. The main content area shows 'You are looking at 1-20 of 311 entries for: All: 'organ system' x Medicine and health x'. Below this, there's a 'Did you mean organ system' link and a 'clear all' button. The results are displayed in a table with columns for '311 ENTRIES' and '1 BOOKS'. The first result is 'organ system' with the subject 'Medicine and health, Clinical Medicine' and a brief definition: 'A group of organs in the human body that work together to carry out a vital body function'.

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

The screenshot shows the Britannica Library website interface. At the top, the 'Britannica Library' logo is on the left, and a search bar is on the right. Below the logo, there are tabs for 'Teens', 'Your Britannica Resources', 'Research Tools and Materials', 'Help', and 'My Britannica'. The search results page is titled 'You searched for "cell"'. Below this, there's a 'Reading Level' section with tabs for '1', '2', and '3'. The results are displayed in a table with columns for 'Articles', 'Images', 'Videos', and 'More'. The first result is 'cell (biology)' with a star icon and a brief definition: 'The smallest unit of living matter that can exist by itself is the cell. Some organisms, such as bacteria, consist of only a single cell. Others, ...'. The second result is 'plant (life-form)' with a star icon and a brief definition: 'Complex tissues | The complex tissues include the dermal and vascular tissues of plants. The epidermis is the outermost layer of cells on the plant body ...'. The third result is 'Plant Cells and Tissues' with a brief definition: 'Plant Cells and Tissues | All living things are made up of tiny units called cells, which are composed of organic substances such as carbohydrates, proteins ...'. The page is signed out by 'Ruby Moonlight Lessor'.

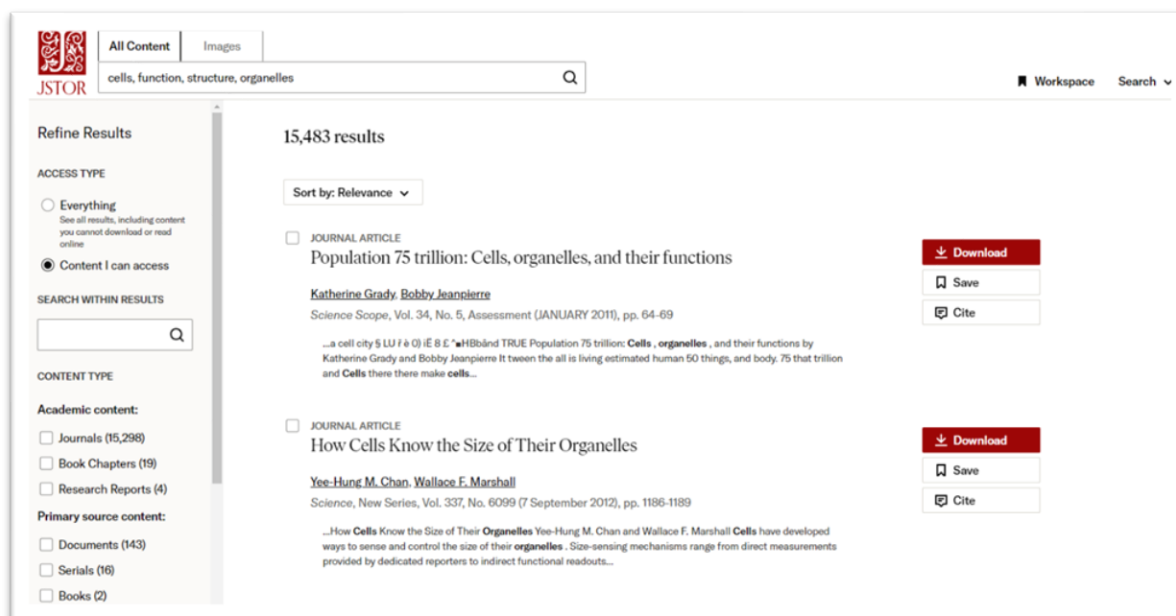
[Gale Interactive: Science](#) provides a comprehensive view of the most-studied science subjects. Authoritative, high-quality digital content is paired with interactive 3D models.

The screenshot shows the Gale Interactive Science interface. At the top, there's a search bar with 'cell' entered. Below the search bar, on the left, is a 'FILTER BY CATEGORY' section with checkboxes for various science topics like Biology, Chemistry, and Earth Science. On the right, under '18 SEARCH RESULTS', there are four featured results: Meiosis, Mitosis, Cell Membrane, and Plant Cell. Each result includes a small image, a title, a brief description, and a list of associated standards or topics.

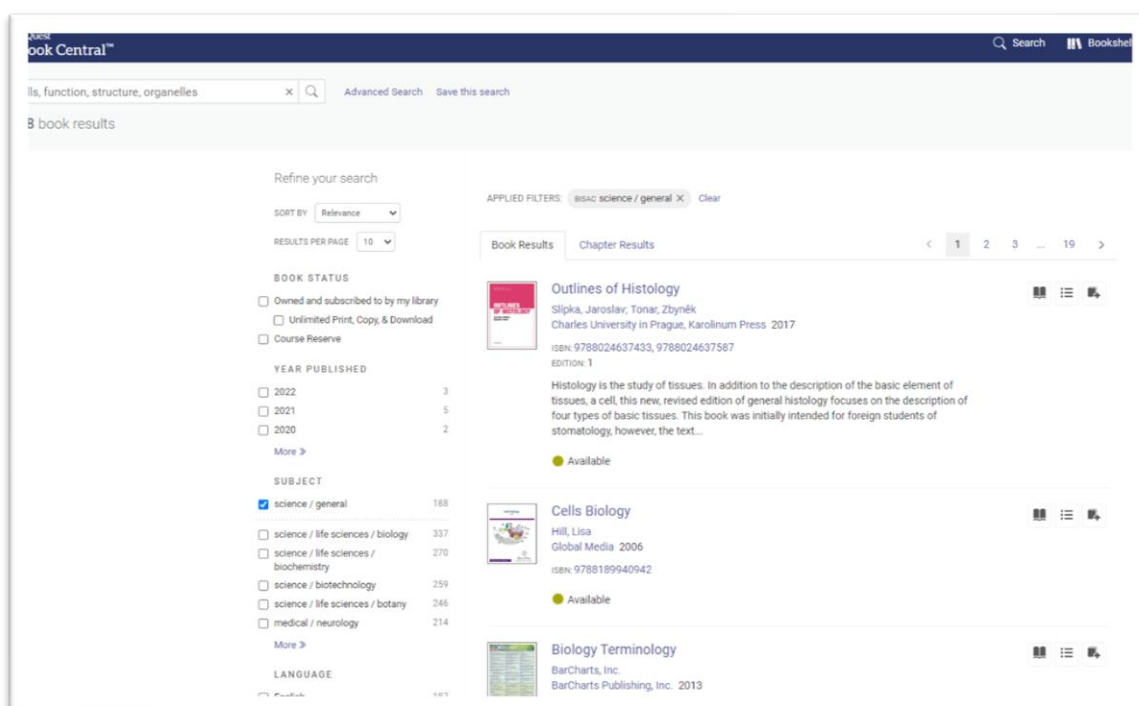
[Gale Health and Wellness](#) provides access to trusted medical reference materials including journals, pamphlets, and health-related videos and articles from over 2,200 publications.

The screenshot shows the Gale Health and Wellness interface. At the top, there's a search bar with 'cell' entered. Below the search bar, there's a 'results' section showing '1616 RESULTS FOR cell'. A table lists different content types: Reference (3,027), Magazines (410,484), Videos (681), Images (310), Audio (1,487), News (787,044), and Academic Journals (233,845). Below this, there's a 'FILTER YOUR RESULTS' section with checkboxes for 'Full Text Documents', 'Document Contains Images', 'Consumer Health', 'En Español', and 'Peer-Reviewed Journals'. At the bottom, there's a 'SUGGESTED TOPICS' section.

[JSTOR](#) provides access to more than 12 million scholarly journal articles and ebooks, and is especially good for primary sources.



[ProQuest Ebook Central](#) Compiles a library of topic specific ebooks for you to access free through your SLQ membership.



Cells and their Function: Organ Systems and Survival

Analyse the relationship between structure and function of cells, tissues and organs in a plant and an animal organ system and explain how these systems enable survival of the individual.

- Comparing 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional representations of organ systems to understand how organs are positioned within the body.
- Comparing the structure and function of analogous systems in a plant and an animal.
- Examining the specialised cells and tissues involved in structure and function of particular organs in an organ system.
- Describing the structure of each organ in a system and relating its function to the overall function of the system.
- Researching how a disorder in cells or tissues can affect how an organ functions, such as how hardening of the arteries can lead to poor circulation or heart disease.
- Investigating how an artificial organ mimics or augments the function or functions of a real organ.

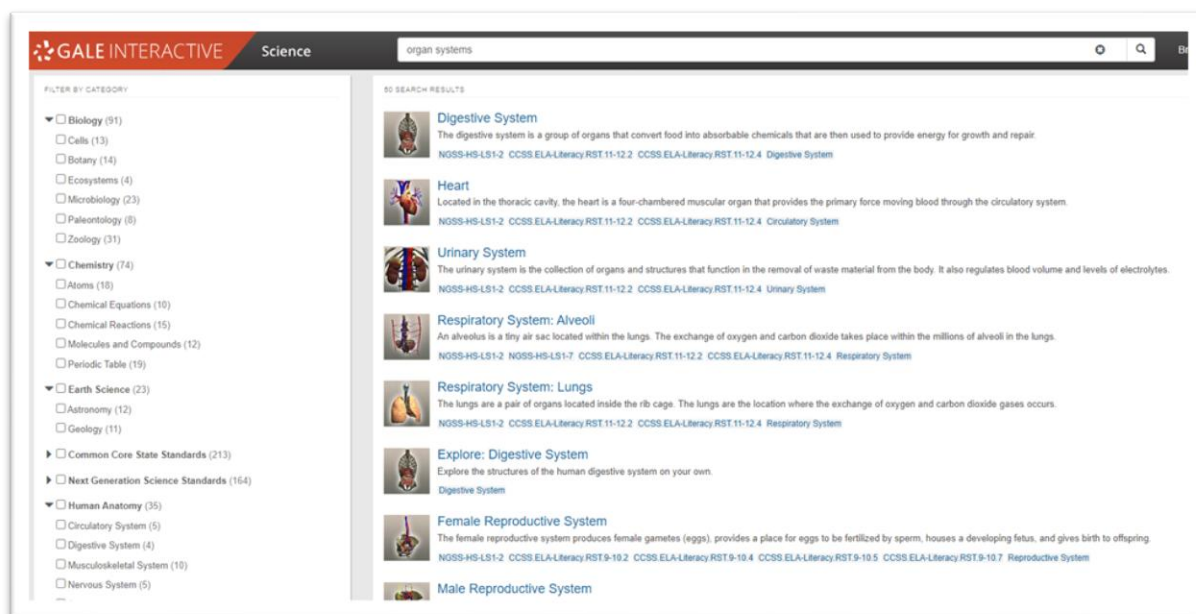
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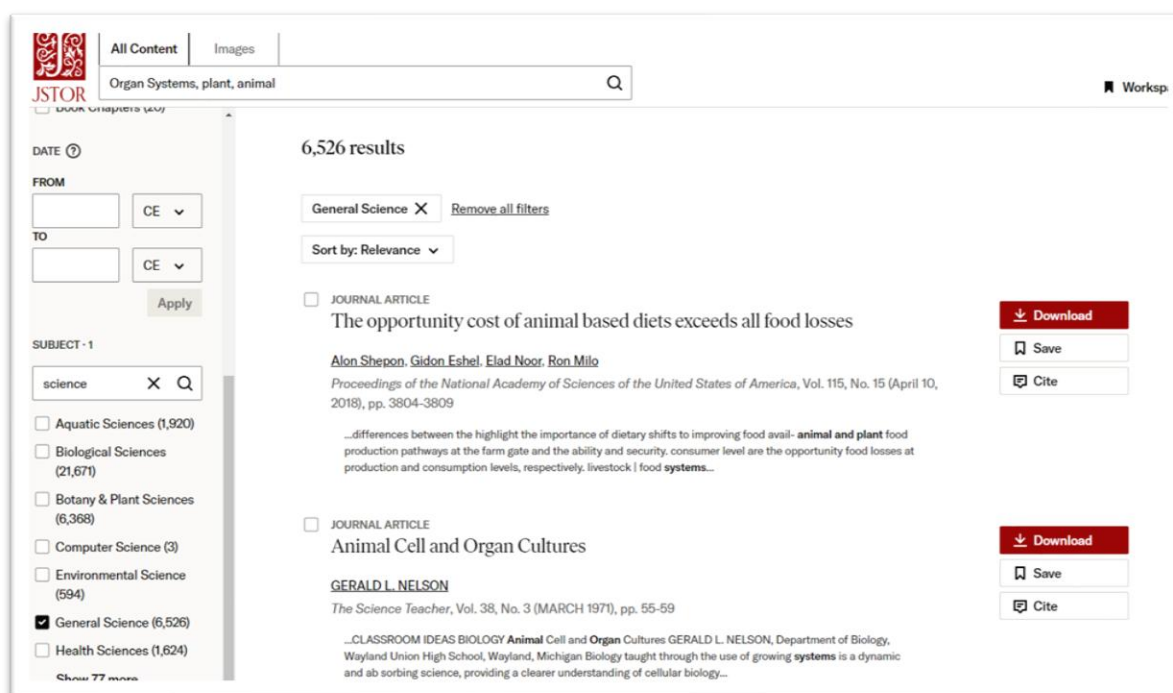
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The screenshot shows the Britannica Library website interface. At the top, there's a header with a 'TABLE OF CONTENTS' link and the word 'organ' in large letters. Below the header, there's a 'Reading Level' indicator showing '2' and '3'. The main content area is titled 'Introduction' and contains text about the definition of an organ in biology. There's a video player showing a person in a field. The page also includes a 'Related' section with links to 'Images & Videos' and 'Related'.

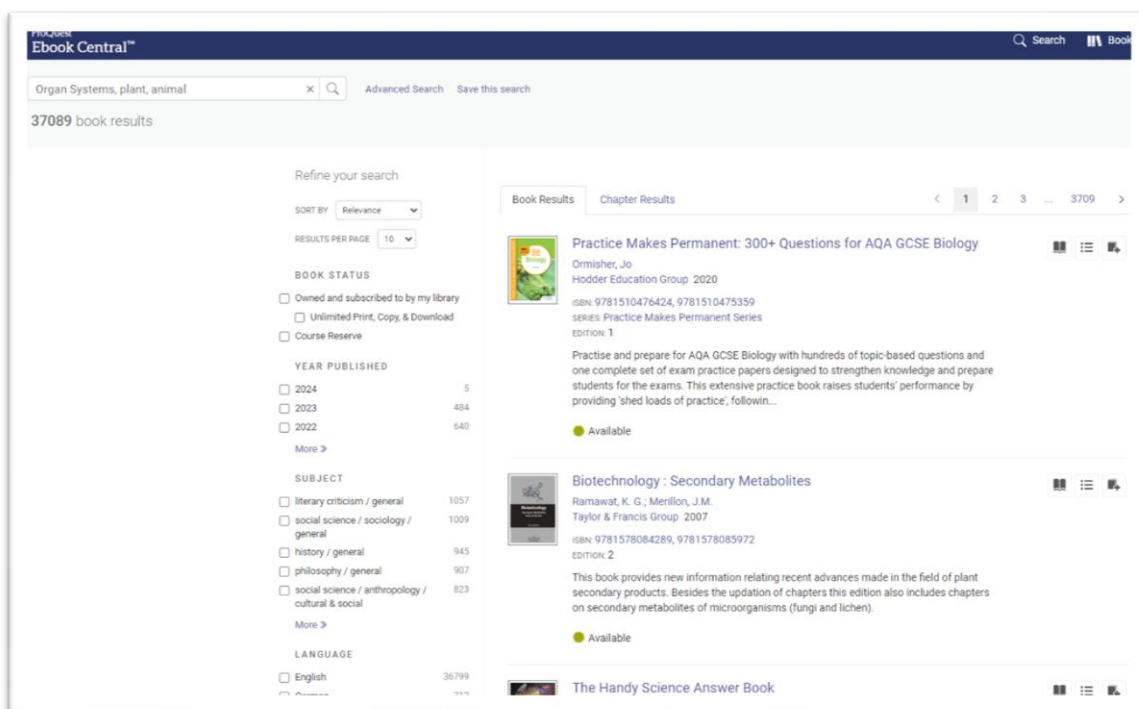
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Ask a librarian

[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.