

General Science

[Science.gov: FirstGov for Science](http://science.gov/)

<http://science.gov/>

Developed by 14 federal scientific and technical information organizations from 10 major science agencies, "Science.gov contains reliable information resources selected by the respective agencies as their best science information. Two major types of information are included—selected authoritative science Web sites and databases of technical reports, journal articles, conference proceedings, and other published materials. (The specific content varies by database.) The selected Web sites can be explored from the science.gov homepage. The Web pages and the databases can be searched individually or simultaneously from the search page." For a "catalog of government science and technology web sites," you might want to browse through Science.gov's companion website, SciTechResources.gov.

[Martindale's The Reference Desk](http://www.martindalecenter.com/)

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Jim Martindale has put together this excellent metasite with loads of science tables and over 17,000 web-based calculators. Special "centers" provide annotated links to resources in astronomy, biosciences, engineering, chemistry, math, physics, material sciences, among others.

[Scientific and Technical Acronyms, Symbols and Abbreviations](http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/stasa/)

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A major publisher, Wiley InterScience, provides this free resource, good for quick look-ups. The 200,000 entries come from all areas of science and technology. "It is a searchable, online rendering of the acclaimed Scientific and Technical Acronyms, Symbols and Abbreviations by Uwe Erb and Harald Keller (published 2001, John Wiley & Sons)." Click on the link for "Acronym Finder" on the opening page. When the new window opens, you can either do a quick abbreviation look up or click on "Reference tables" to open up those appendices. The Reference Tables provide PDFs of pages with more visually-oriented content like symbols, alphabets, and the like.

[CiteSeer](http://citeseer.nj.nec.com/cs)

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Provided by the NEC Research Institute, CiteSeer is "a scientific literature digital library that aims to improve the dissemination and feedback of scientific literature, and to provide improvements in functionality, usability, availability, cost, comprehensiveness, efficiency, and timeliness. Rather than creating just another digital library, CiteSeer provides algorithms, techniques, and

software that can be used in other digital libraries." Use the search engine to search documents within their database or citations made by indexed documents. Although CiteSeer covers web-based documents in all areas of science, it is perhaps strongest in the field of computer science.

[Scirus](http://www.scirus.com/)

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This search engine "for scientific information only" can be very handy. Most of the material comes from higher-quality research websites providing reliable information. But--be warned--some of the links are to fee-based information. This is especially true of the journal articles included in this "free" database. And it can be undeniably frustrating to click on a link only to be challenged for a password or a credit card number.

[Internet History of Science Sourcebook](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/science/sciencesbook.html)

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Paul Halsall of Fordham University put together this "collection of public domain and copy-permitted historical texts presented cleanly (without advertising or excessive layout) for educational use." Sections are wide-ranging and well-organized. However, since it doesn't appear that the page has been updated in a while, don't be surprised if you hit a few dead links.

[Eric Weisstein's World of Scientific Biography](http://scienceworld.wolfram.com/biography/)

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This useful website contains over 1,000 entries, over 2,000 cross-references, and over 200 illustrative "figures" providing brief biographical information on notable figures from the worlds of science. There is an alphabetical index, or you can browse by branch of science, gender/minority status, nationality, or historical period.

[EnergyFiles](http://www.osti.gov/EnergyFiles/)

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"At this site you will find over 500 databases and Web sites containing information and resources pertaining to science and technology of interest to the Department of Energy, with an emphasis on the physical sciences." You may either enter specific Subject Pathways, and explore areas like "Biology and Medicine," "Geosciences," or "Physics," or select specific databases from the OSTI Resource Search page.

[news@nature.com](http://www.nature.com/news/index.html)

<http://www.nature.com/news/index.html>

The publisher of *Nature* magazine maintains this attractive page, updated daily. Breaking stories in the sciences are provided, along with related stories and "external links" to more information. A good place to browse for the latest current events and issues in science and technology. This area should provide free content, but some areas of *Nature's* website are available only to individual subscribers. (Note to Suffolk researchers: Sawyer Library does subscribe to the paper journal, and articles older than a year ago are available in our [Academic Search Premier](#) database.)

[The National Academies: Science in the Headlines](#)

<http://www.nas.edu/headlines/>

Here, at the website of the National Academies, "Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine," you can browse through this page for more recent news releases related to breakthroughs, awards, and events in the sciences. And the NAS also has a webpage for [The National Academies Press](#). Although you can read more than 3,000 of the the NAP books and publications for free online, they charge to actually download the PDF.

[MagPortal.com: Science & Technology](#)

<http://www.magportal.com/c/sci/>

This corporate website is designed to provide magazine content for other webpages to make them "more dynamic and more useful." But you can visit independently and browse or search through linked fulltext articles from a variety of scientific and technical magazines, as well as science-related articles from other types of magazines (like *Business Week*). Besides this general science page, there are subcategory pages for more specific areas like Biology & Life Sciences, Engineering, Chemistry, and Mathematics.

[The Internet Public Library: Science & Technology](#)

<http://www.ipl.org/div/subject/browse/sci00.00.00/>

This virtual library includes pages of links in "sub-heading" categories that include astronomy, chemical sciences, life sciences, and more than a dozen additional fields. Portals like IPL are often a good place to browse for useful web materials from a variety of sources.

[Sci/Tech Web Awards 2004](#)

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?articleID=00085684-2613-115C-A61383414B7F0000>

In Scientific American's annual Sci/Tech Web Awards, the editors have sifted "through the virtual piles of pages to find the top sites for your browsing pleasure. We've selected an eclectic mix of 50 sites" in the areas of archaeology & paleontology, astronomy & astrophysics, biology, chemistry, computer science, earth & environment, engineering & technology, mathematics, medicine, and physics. You might also want to take a look at the [2003 awards feature](#), and the [Sci/Tech Web Awards for 2002](#). And, of course, it's also worth checking out other areas of the [Scientific American](#) website.

[National Science Digital Library](#)

<http://nsdl.org/>

This still-developing website is funded by the National Science Foundation. It is self-described as "the comprehensive source for science, technology, engineering and mathematics education." It is searchable, provides pictures and exhibits, and provides a variety of specialized portals. The National Science Teachers Association (NTSA) also maintains an extensive searchable and annotated list of recommended [teacherResources](#) for science education. If you'd rather browse than search, click the "Science Websites" link in the yellow right-hand frame.

