

## Search Tips For Advanced Searching

(Using the Search Terms below is called **Boolean Searching**)

Search Terms	Meaning	Examples
<b>AND</b>	The AND operator locates articles that contain all of the key words or phrases.	children AND computers
<b>OR</b>	The OR operator locates articles that contain at least one of the key words or phrases.	tornado OR cyclone
<b>NOT</b>	The NOT operator is used to eliminate articles that contain certain key words or phrases.	basketball NOT college
*	Truncation includes alternate word endings such as plurals and tense variations in your query.	farm* for: farmer, farming, farmland etc.
" "	Enclose a phrase in quotation marks to find multiple words appearing next to one another in a specified order.	"affirmative action"
( )	Boolean searches are conducted in the following order of precedence (NOT, AND, OR) unless parentheses are used. Use NOT and OR together to limit your search . Use AND and OR together to expand your search.	(dolphin NOT fish) OR porpoise  health AND (kids OR children)
<b>Putting it all Together</b>	This is an example of how to locate references to the various earthquake(s) in California or Washington, excluding those in San Francisco.	(California OR Washington) AND earthquake* NOT "San Francisco"

Adapted from: SKS Search Tips, Reference Toolbox.  
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