



# AACPS Digital Citizenship

## Lesson Title: Subject Category Searching

Grade 3

Time: 30 minutes

### Overview:

Selecting subject categories is one of two main search tools used on the Internet. Students learn how to best select subject categories in a directory and explore the concept of narrowing their search.

### Objectives:

- Compare describing routes to locations in both the real world and in cyberspace
- Use an online children's directory to select subject categories that lead to a specified topic
- Recognize that directories may provide alternate routes to reach a Web site

### Materials:

Computer Access

**Activity Sheet:** *Subject Category Searching*

Websites: Web Resources > Tech Connections:

[World Book Online For Kids](#)

[Ask Kids](#)

AACPS [Online Databases](#)

## Maryland Technology Literacy Standards for Students (MTLSS)

**Standard 5.0 – Technology for Information Use and Management:** Students will use technology to locate, evaluate, gather, and organize information.

### Activities:

- Ask volunteers to describe the route they take from home to school or between any two familiar places.
- **Ask:** *Is there another way to get there?* Students should be able to describe an alternate route.
- Explain that, just as they can travel more than one route to school, they can take more than one way to reach a site in cyberspace.
- Tell students that today they will go into cyberspace to find out more about turtles.
- Take students to Web Resources > Tech Connections. Find the title of this lesson, and open its links.
- Direct students' attention to the eight main categories (%People,+%Places,+%Science and Mathematics,+%World Religions,+%Plants and Animals,+%History and Government,+%Arts,+ %Sports and Hobbies,+) at the middle of *World Book Online for Kids*. Discuss the meaning of the term "category," and ask students to predict some items they might find under each category above. **NOTE:** Online directory subject categories may be reorganized from time to time. Therefore, your class may need to select different categories than the ones suggested here.

- **Ask:** *Which of these categories, or subjects might lead us to turtles?* Guide students' attention to "Plants and Animals" and click on it. Then, scroll to the section of the page titled "Animals " and click on it to bring up a list of categories.
- **Ask:** *Which of these categories, or subjects, might lead us closer to turtles?* While several categories may lead to turtles, the most likely one is "Reptiles." Guide students' attention to "Reptiles" and click on it to bring up a list of categories.
- Have students click on "Reptiles" and examine the new categories that appear underneath.
- **Ask:** *What should we click next?* %Sea Turtle+or %Turtles.
- Students will see information about Turtles. Congratulate students on having found the path to their goal.
- Distribute the activity sheet, *Subject Category Searching*.
- Challenge students to recall the path or route they took to get from the home page of World Book Online to information about turtles. Have them write each subject category in order. (Plants and Animals > Animals > Reptiles > Sea Turtle or Turtles) Note that the worksheet has spaces for selected categories.
- If they have trouble recalling category names, show them how the subject categories are posted and how the categories are connected by "greater than" symbols, indicating how one category leads to the next. Note: The last category of sea turtle or turtle will not be listed in the area.
- Point out that there is often more than one way to reach the sites they want.
- Return to the main page by using the back arrow.
- Challenge students to use the search function and search for turtles. If students reach a dead end and do not find sites about turtles, have them use the back arrow to return to Home and have them try another path. Depending on the class you may also want to try *Ask Kids* or another site from the *Online Databases*. Another option would be to use *World Book Student* or *World Book Discoverer*.
- Use the activity sheet again to record the second successful path they took in choosing subject categories.

### Closure:

- **Ask:** *How do you use subject categories to find an interesting place in cyberspace?* (Click on subject categories one after another until you reach your goal.)
- **Ask:** *What can you do if you do not reach the subject you want?* (Back up and choose other possible subjects.)

### Extension:

- Have students choose a subject to locate Web sites about. Allow them to share their results by recording their selected subject categories with a "greater than" symbol, so that other students can retrace their path.

**Websites Used in this activity:**

Ask Kids-

<http://www.askkids.com/>

World Book Online for Kids-

<http://www.worldbookonline.com/kids/Home>

AACPS Online Databases-

<http://opac.aacps.org/databases.htm>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Subject Category Searching

Show the subject categories that lead to turtles.

