GALILEO at the Reference Desk

GALILEO is as handy as your rolodex

Library reference desks had frequently asked questions long before FAQs became links on websites. Many desks still have the rolodex that includes answers to such as the longitude and latitude of the hometown and all the archaic words that end in –gry. Here are some GALILEO resources you can turn to for the same kind of near-at-hand help.

Consumer Health Complete is great for consumer health reference. You’ll find:
- Medical dictionaries
- Patient information sheets on conditions and diseases
- Drug information sheets
- Mayo Clinic reference books

Georgia Health Go Local is your link to health care in Georgia. Search for services available by provider name, location, and by diseases and health issues. A joint project between the National Library of Medicine and Georgia academic and health institutions.

Encyclopaedia Britannica databases hold the answers to many questions: What is the Pythagorean theorem? When did Georgia become a state? What is the circumference of the earth? Tools include
- Timeline
- World atlas
- Spanish-English dictionary
- This day in history database
- Pronunciation. Double-click on any word in the website for a definition and audible pronunciation

GAcollege411 offers information on colleges and universities in Georgia, test preparation content, career matching tools, and financial aid planning, including online application forms.

NoveList and NoveList K-8 are great for readers’ advisory.
- Read-alikes
- Books in order in series
- Award winners
- Find books by reading level/Lexile score

GeorgiaInfo is now a part of the Digital Library of Georgia. It’s an extensive web directory with links to information on history, geography, counties and cities, government, and more. Don’t forget the New Georgia Encyclopedia and the Digital Library are great places to look for Georgia information

Special Tips for Using GALILEO

- When patrons need maps of states of countries, to to Britannica or SIRS databases for full-color, up-to-date maps that print on and 8x10 piece of paper.
- Search for pictures in GALILEO High School and Library by using the picture & image selectors.
- Many databases now include citations for books and articles in APA, MLA, and other popular styles.

Homework Help is Reference Too

Some of your best patrons are students who need homework help. Here are some databases that will help them get what they need quickly and easily.

SIRS Researcher Leading Issues includes ideas for viewpoint or persuasion papers with detailed information on pro/ con arguments (available to K-12)

Literary Reference Center includes
- Literary criticism
- Author biographies
- Literature encyclopedias
- Formatted citations

Company Information. You can use company information to help inform investing, to bone up on a company for a job interview, or to find out whom to address a letter of complaint to. You can search for company information using the GALILEO Search by Subject tab (choose “Business” then “Company Information” or go to these databases:
- Hoover’s Company Profiles
- Business Source Complete (Datamonitor Reports and Life Science Analytics Reports)
- Data Corporate Snapshots
- Georgia Corporate Search

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Georgia’s Virtual Library
An Initiative of the University System of Georgia