What is a library database?

x **Library databases contain information from published works.**
   Examples: Magazine and newspaper articles, encyclopedias and other reference books.

x **Library databases are searchable.**
   By Keywords, Subject, Author, Magazine Title, Date, etc.

x **Library databases provide citation information..**
   Author, if available
   Title of Article
   Publication (Title of Magazine, Newspaper, or Reference Book)
   Publisher
   Date of Publication

x **Library databases often contain full-text articles.**
   You can print or email an entire article.

x **There are different kinds of library databases**
   For specific topics. Examples: WilsonWeb for Biography, eLibrary Science
   For general topics Examples: Ebsco, NewsBank

x **Library databases are paid for by taxpayer dollars.**

How is a library database different from a website?

Library databases	websites
x Library databases get their information from professionals or experts in the field.	x Websites can be written by anyone regardless of expertise.
x Library databases contain published works where facts are checked.	x Website content is not necessarily checked by an expert.
x Library databases are easy to cite in a bibliography and may create the citation for you.	x Websites often don't provide the information necessary to create a complete citation.
x Library databases can help you narrow your topic or suggest related subjects.	x Websites often aren't organized to support student research needs.
x Library databases are updated frequently and include the date of publication.	x Websites may not indicate when a page is updated.