



Electronic Resources

Electronic Books at the Biology Library

There are a growing number of electronic books (e-books) available to UIUC Library patrons. Many of these electronic books are part of packages or individual subscriptions that the University Library subscribes to, and require netid login/password when using them on a non-UIUC Campus computer. Some electronic books are freely available. Management of electronic books is still a work in progress and locating titles may require a search in more than one place. This guide will show you how to locate electronic books that are available through the University Library, as well as list some of the more commonly used ones in the biological sciences.

In the days when collections were entirely physical, the library catalog was the central location to locate what titles the University Library owned or subscribed to. Theoretically, this is the case with electronic titles. Every attempt is made to provide a record for electronic book titles or a link to the electronic version from its print title counterpart record in the [Online Library Catalog \(OLC\)](#). But with electronic resources for literature indexes, journals, books numbering in the tens of thousands from many different publishers and vendors, a new database was created to organize these resources. The [Online Research Resources \(ORR\)](#) database was created and provides access to most electronic information resources (e-journals, e-books, electronic indexes and abstracts) the Library has available. Most of the electronic books that the University Library subscribes to may be accessed in the ORR. To browse titles, click on the "Reference Tools" tab; then click on "Biological Sciences" subject area. All electronic reference books that have ORR records will be listed with brief details; click the "i" for more detailed information about the title. There are several subject areas and each can be checked for electronic reference books in the related subject areas. You may also search for a specific title using the "Reference Tools" tab. Click on the "Help" tab for more information about the ORR and how to search it.

Electronic book access caveats:

- Occasionally the ORR record for the title does not get all the appropriate subjects assigned to the record, so the title does not show up in that subject's list. (This can be remedied by letting us know via the "Report an access problem" link via the "i" page for that record !) But if there, the title will show up if you search for it using the "ALL" tab.
- Not all titles have a corresponding OLC record – theoretically should, but doesn't, so if you don't find in the OLC, check out the ORR, and vice versa. With the burgeoning growth of electronic titles, the complexities create challenges that are being worked on in this regard.
- The University Library subscribes to several packages that contain book titles, and there are a number of books that can be accessed through these packages but not individually – yet (See the General and Collections sections below for some examples). They will require you to go into the product and browse or search. Wish it were easier, but we are not totally there yet.
- There are many excellent electronic books titles available freely over the Web. Some of these we have links to from the ORR, and some are linked to from Library guides (See [Library Life Sciences Electronic Reference Book List](#))
- There are even some electronic book titles in the OLC that are not in the ORR.
- Librarians are more than happy to assist with any quests or questions, you have – don't hesitate to [Ask A Librarian](#) !

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General Sources for Reference Books

- [Library Life Sciences Electronic Reference Book List](#) This resource links to commonly used electronic books from University Library subscriptions as well as freely available scholarly electronic reference and other books of interest.
- [Oxford Reference Online](#) Contains over 100 dictionary, language reference, and subject reference works published by Oxford University Press. It is fully-indexed and cross-searchable.
- [UIUC Online Reference Collection](#) This collection links to many electronic dictionaries, encyclopedias, almanacs, and other useful reference resources that are subscribed to by the Library. *Must see !!*
- [XReferPlus](#) An online collection of dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other reference books in several areas, including sciences as well as general reference works such as the [American Heritage@ Stedman's Medical Dictionary](#) and [Columbia Encyclopedia](#).

Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

- [Collins Dictionary of Biology](#) from [XReferPlus](#)
- The Cambridge Dictionary of Scientists See [XReferPlus](#)
- [Dictionary of Animal Behaviour](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)
- [A Dictionary of Biology](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)
- [A Dictionary of Ecology](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)
- [A Dictionary of Genetics](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)
- [A Dictionary of Plant Sciences](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)
- [A Dictionary of Zoology](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)
- [A Dictionary of Scientists](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)
- [Dictionary of Developmental Biology and Embryology](#) from [XReferPlus](#)
- [Encyclopedia of Animals \(EBSCO Animals\)](#) Provides in-depth information on a variety of topics relating to animals. The database consists of indexing, abstracts, and full text records describing the nature and habitat of familiar animals. To use: Click on the link above and select "Change Databases". Select "EBSCO Animals"
- [Encyclopedia of Life Sciences](#)
- [Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia](#), 2nd ed., 17 vol. (2004) Available via Gale Virtual Reference Library
- [Encyclopedia of Genetics, Genomics, Proteomics and Bioinformatics](#)
- [Illustrated Dictionary of Science](#) from [XReferPlus](#)
- [Macmillan Dictionary of Toxicology](#) from [XReferPlus](#)
- McGraw-Hill Concise Encyclopedia of Science and Technology See [XReferPlus](#)
- [McGraw-Hill Dictionary of Scientific and Technical Terms](#) from [XReferPlus](#)
- [Mosby's Handbook of Herbs & Natural Supplements](#) from [XReferPlus](#)
- [Saunders Comprehensive Veterinary Dictionary](#) from [XReferPlus](#)

Handbooks and Manuals

- [Arabidopsis Book](#)
- [The Birds of North America](#)
- [The Chicago Manual of Style](#)
- [The Oxford Companion to the Body](#) via [Oxford Reference Online](#)

Indexes

- [Index Animalium](#) 1758-1850. An electronic version by Smithsonian Institution Libraries.
- Index Kewensis (see [International Plants Index on the Web](#))
- [IndexCat](#) (Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office) The National Library of Medicine's digital version of the five series of the printed Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office.
- [International Plants Index on the Web](#) (IPNI) The data in the IPNI comes from three sources: the [Index Kewensis](#) (IK), the [Gray Card Index](#) (GCI) and the [Australian Plant Names Index](#) (APNI).

Methods and Protocols

- [Biological Procedures Online](#) BPO publisher homepage; [Editorial introducing BPO](#)
- [Brain research. Brain research protocols](#)
- [Cold Spring Harbor Protocols](#)
- [Current Protocols in Bioinformatics](#)
- [Current Protocols in Cell Biology](#)
- [Current Protocols in Cytometry](#)
- [Current Protocols in Food Analytical Chemistry](#)
- [Current Protocols in Human Genetics](#)
- [Current Protocols in Immunology](#)
- [Current Protocols in Magnetic Resonance Imaging](#)
- [Current Protocols in Microbiology](#)
- [Current Protocols in Molecular Biology](#)
- [Current Protocols in Neuroscience](#)
- [Current Protocols in Nucleic Acid Chemistry](#)
- [Current Protocols in Pharmacology](#)
- [Current Protocols in Protein Science](#)
- [Current Protocols in Stem Cell Biology](#) **TRIAL**
- [Current Protocols in Toxicology](#)
- [Methods in Enzymology](#) Vol. 1(1955 - present)
- [Nature Protocols](#)