

Middle School MLA Citation Guide*

CITING BOOKS AND OTHER NON-PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

▪ **Book**

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. Title of Book. City of Publication: Publisher's Name, Year of Publication.

Example: Ride, Sally. Exploring Our Solar System. New York: Crown, 2003.

▪ **Book – Editor or Compiler – An Anthology or Compilation**

Editor's or Compiler's Last Name, First Name Middle Name, ed. or comp. Title of Book. City of Publication: Publisher's Name, Year of Publication.

Example: Benford, Gregory, ed. Skylife: Space Habitats in Story and Science. New York: Harcourt, 2000.

▪ **Book – By Two or More Authors**

Note: List the authors' names in the order given on the publication's title page.

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name and Author's First Name Middle Name Last Name. Title of Book. City of Publication: Publisher's Name, Year of Publication.

Example: Gonzalez, Guillermo and Jay Wesley Richards. The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery. Washington DC: Regnery, 2004.

▪ **Book – Reference Book Encyclopedia**

Author of article's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Article Title." Title of Encyclopedia. Year of Publication.

Example: Brecher, Kenneth. "Universe." World Book Encyclopedia. 2003.

CITING ARTICLES AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS IN PERIODICALS

▪ **Newspaper**

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Title of Article." Name of Newspaper Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication, Edition ed.: Page Numbers of Article.

Example: Maugh, Thomas H. "Saturn's Moon Not an Asteroid." The Seattle Times 24 June 2004, Eastside ed.: B2+.

▪ **Magazine**

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Title of Article." Name of Magazine Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication: Page Numbers of Article.

Example: Cowen, Ron. "Sky Lights." Science News 18 Sept. 2004:179-180.

CITING MISCELLANEOUS PRINT AND NON-PRINT SOURCES

▪ **Film or Video Recording (DVD, Videocassette)**

Title. Dir. Director's First Name Middle Name Last Name. Writer, Performer, or Producer's First Name Middle Name Last Name, Year of Original Release. Media Format. Distributor, Year of Release.

Example: E.T., The Extra Terrestrial. Dir. Steven Spielberg. Writer, Melissa Mathison. 1982. Videocassette. Universal, 2002.

▪ **Interview (Personal or Telephone Interview Conducted by Researcher)**

Last Name, First Name Middle Name of Person Interviewed. Personal, E-mail or Telephone interview. Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Interview.

Example: Lucas, George. Telephone interview. 6 Dec. 2004.

CITING ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS

▪ Basic Entry: A Document from an Internet Site

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Article or Specific Web Page Title." Title of Entire Web Site. Day Abbreviated Month. Year Web Page Was Last Revised. Sponsoring Organization. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Read It <URL>.

Example: "Space Weather Now." Space Environment Center. 29 May 2007. National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration. 30 May 2007 <<http://www.sec.noaa.gov/SWN/>>.

▪ Article in an Online Newspaper

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Title of Article." Name of Newspaper. Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Viewed It <URL>.

Example: Vergano, Dan. "Planets More Like Earth Found Circling Nearby Stars." USA Today 1 Sept. 2004. 13 Nov. 2004 <<http://www.usatoday.com/>>.

▪ A Work from an Online Subscription Database

Note: Since URLs are complex, provide the URL of the database's search page or home page. If citing an article originally in print form but obtained from an on-line data base, include enough information to find the item in either.

CultureGrams (World Edition, Kids Edition, States Edition)

"Title of Article." Name of Database Reference Source. Year of Publication. Publisher's Name. Name of Your School Lib. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Read It <URL>.

Example: "Iceland." CultureGrams World Edition. 2007. Proquest CSA. Highland Middle School Lib. 22 Jan. 2007 <<http://online.culturegrams.com/>>.

Facts.com (World News Digest, Reuter's® News, Issues & Controversies, Today's Science, World Almanac, World Almanac Encyclopedia)

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Title of Article." Name of Database Reference Source. Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication. Name of Database. Publisher's Name. Name of Library Where Viewed. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Read It <URL>.

Example: "NASA Funding." Issues and Controversies. 15 Feb. 2005. Facts.com. Facts On File News Services. Tillicum Middle School Lib. 15 Nov. 2006 <<http://www.2facts.com>>.

Grolier (Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia, The New Book of Knowledge, The New Book of Popular Science, Lands and Peoples, America the Beautiful)

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Title of Article." Name of Database Reference Source. Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication. Name of Database. Publisher's Name. Name of Library Where Viewed. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Read It <URL>.

Example: Grossman, Lawrence. "Asteroid." Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia. 2005. Grolier Online. Scholastic Library Publishing. Sammamish High School Lib. 11 Nov. 2006 <<http://go.grolier.com/>>.

Proquest (ProQuest, eLibrary, Bridgeman Art and Art Resources)

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Title of Article." Name of Publication. Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication. Name of Database Reference Source. Name of Library Where Viewed. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Read It <URL>.

Example: Reddy, Francis. "The Tenth Planet." Astronomy. 01 Nov. 2005. eLibrary. Proquest. Tillicum Middle School Lib. 04 Jan. 2006 <<http://www.bigchalk.com/>>.

United Streaming

"Title of Video." Name of Producer. Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication. Publisher's Name. Name of Library Where Viewed. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Read It <URL>.

Example: "Stargazing: How the Sky Works." United Learning. 2002. Discovery Education. Tyee Middle School Lib. 22 May 2007 <<http://www.unitedstreaming.com/>>.

World Book, World Book Kids

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Name. "Title of Article." Name of Database. Day Abbreviated Month. Year of Publication. Publisher's Name. Name of library where viewed. Day Abbreviated Month. Year You Read It <URL>.

Example: Pasachoff, Jay M. "Astronomy." World Book. 2007. World Book Online Reference Center. Odle Middle School Lib. 06 Oct. 2007 <<http://www.worldbookonline.com>>.

Additional MLA Information

DOCUMENTING SOURCES

- If not all information is found, cite what is available i.e. if no author is given, leave blank.
- Shorten names of publishers i.e. for Disney Productions use Disney.
- When citing the date, list day, then three letter abbreviation for month (except for May, June, and July), then the year i.e. January 23, 2005 is written as 23 Jan. 2005.
- Use a colon and space to separate a title from a subtitle such as Skylife: Space Habitats.
- URL, Uniform Resource Locator, is the **web address** for the source of the information. If the URL is extremely long, give the URL of the website's search page or break the URL at one of the backslashes as seen in the bibliography below.
- Many databases now provide examples of formatting for articles but may not have the newest MLA formatting style. Check with the Library Media Specialist.

SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHY / WORKS CITED PAGE

There are two types of bibliographies so check with your teacher as to which is required:

1. **Works Cited:** Lists only works actually cited (quoted, paraphrased or summarized) in a research project.
2. **Works Consulted:** Includes sources used in preparing a research project and not just the works cited. This can also be headed a "Bibliography".

The diagram illustrates the formatting of a Works Cited page. At the top center, the title "Works Cited" is centered, with a box labeled "Center the title" and a double-headed arrow indicating a 1" margin. The page is double-spaced, as indicated by a box labeled "Double space entire document". The entries are listed in alphabetical order, as shown by a box labeled "Place entries in alphabetical order". The first entry is: Gonzalez, Guillermo and Jay Wesley Richards. The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery. Washington DC: Regnery, 2004. A box labeled "Give your last name and page number of the bibliography" points to the author's name. The second entry is: "Space Stations." The New Book of Knowledge @ Grolier Online. 21 May 2003. Scholastic Library Publishing. Eastgate Elementary Lib. 11 Jan. 2008 <http://gme.grolier.com/>. The third entry is: "Space Tourism." Aerospacescholars. 17 Jan. 2007. National Aeronautics and Space Administration Johnson Space Center. 29 Jan. 2008 <http://aerospacescholars.jsc.nasa.gov/HAS/cirr/em/6/7.cfm>. The fourth entry is: Stone, Brad. "A Small Step for Private Space Travel." Newsweek 29 Sept. 2004 <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/6134211/site/newsweek/>. The fifth entry is: Vergano, Dan. "Planets More Like Earth Found Circling Nearby Stars." USA Today 1 Sept. 2004. 15 Jan. 2008 <http://www.usatoday.com/>. A box labeled "Break a long URL at one of the backslashes /" points to the URL in the fifth entry. Margins are indicated by arrows: 1" on the left and right sides, and 1/2" on the top and bottom sides.

FORMATTING A RESEARCH PAPER (MLA STYLE)

The diagram illustrates the formatting of a research paper in MLA style. It shows a sample paper with various annotations and callout boxes providing instructions.

Annotations:

- A vertical double-headed arrow labeled "1''" indicates the top margin.
- A horizontal double-headed arrow labeled "1''" indicates the left margin.
- A vertical double-headed arrow labeled "1''" indicates the bottom margin.
- A vertical arrow labeled "1/2''" points to the page number "Cleveland 1", indicating its placement.

Callout Boxes:

- Top Right:** "Your last name and page number of your paper" (points to "Cleveland 1").
- Center:** "Center the title" (points to "Vacations in Space: Coming Soon").
- Left (Double Spacing):** "Double space entire document" (points to the text).
- Left (Direct Quote):** "Place a short **direct quote** in quotation marks. Include author's last name and page number when available." (points to the quote: "63 miles above earth, into the nether regions of the atmosphere known as suborbital space" (Stone 1)).
- Left (Source Citation):** "If a quote comes from a **source with no author**, include a significant word or two from the title—just enough to distinguish the source from others in the bibliography—and a page number, if available." (points to the citation: "(Space Tourism)").

Sample Paper Content:

John Cleveland
Mr. Rockets
8th Grade Science
15 March 2009

Vacations in Space: Coming Soon

Many people find the idea of a vacation in space exciting. The idea of traveling among the stars and planets has appealed to people for generations. Could we ever really take spring break in space? Recent developments in technology might make space vacations possible in the near future. In this paper, I will look at the progress made in private space travel.

First, some people not only think space travel by an ordinary citizen is possible, but are taking steps to make it happen. Bill Rutan sent a glider "63 miles above earth, into the nether regions of the atmosphere known as suborbital space" (Stone 1). It is not such a great leap to think that some day private space ships will be taking us through the atmosphere into space. NASA has even talked to the Hilton company about "how to transport passengers and building materials" to create a hotel on the moon (Space Tourism).