

America's Leading News Source **For Kids**

Using the Web for Research

**You can do a lot of your background research
for an interview or story online.**

- 1.** Start with a reliable search engine, like **Google.com** or **Yahoo.com**.
- 2.** Make a list of your best search terms. Search terms should include the main idea and key subjects.
- 3.** The best way to find a person is to put quote marks around the person's name, then add words that describe the person's latest project. Be sure to spell the person's name right!

FOR EXAMPLE:

For Eileen Collins, who was captain on the Discovery space shuttle flight, try these search terms:

"Eileen Collins" Discovery "space shuttle"

This will bring up a list of sites that include those terms. Putting quote marks around terms forces the search engine to give you exactly those words in that order.

If you just typed in **Eileen Collins** without the quotes, you would get sites with **Eileen** and with **Collins**, but not necessarily the person you are looking for.

To find bio information on Eileen Collins, type **"Eileen Collins" biography**.

You might want to add the words **astronaut** or **NASA** to further narrow your search.

- 5.** You will also be looking for news stories on your topics. The best place to find articles and quotes is on **Scholastic News Online**, **Google News**, **Yahoo News**, or **aol.com**.
- 6.** Print out the stories that best suit your needs and read them over. Use a highlighter, pencil, or pen to mark information that is important to your story. This will make it easier to find when it's time to write.
- 7.** You can use your research to compile questions for an upcoming interview, to write your story, or to conduct further research.