

Internet Searching: Accessing Information

Task Outcomes:

- ⊗ Search the internet for information about wetlands.
- ⊗ Use advanced search terms.
- ⊗ Record information about wetlands (the 4 types of wetlands, locations of each type of wetland, animals and plants in each type of wetland).
- ⊗ Save internet pictures of wetlands, animals, plants and other related items.
- ⊗ Citing internet sources.

Within this unit of study, students are educated about Habitats & Communities using wetlands as a framework.

Grade 4: Science & Technology – Habitats & Communities

Overall Expectations:

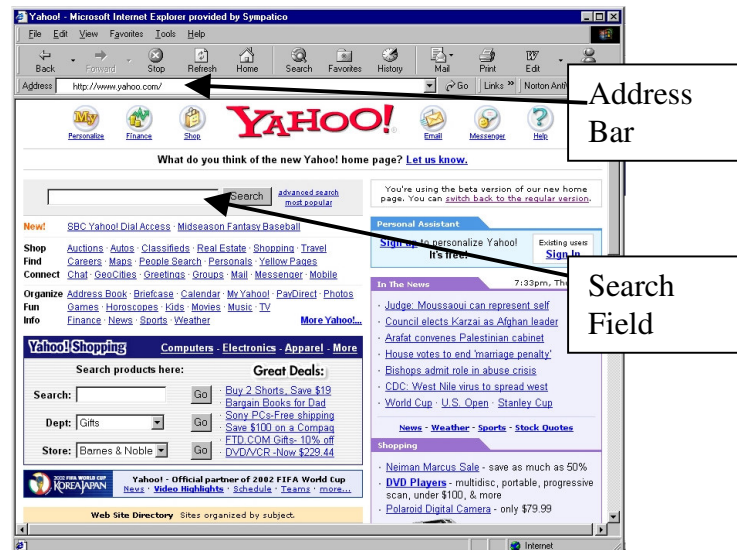
- demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of habitat and community, and identify the factors that could affect habitats and communities of plants and animals;
- investigate the dependency of plants and animals on their habitat and the interrelationships of the plants and animals living in a specific habitat;
- describe ways in which humans can change habitats and the effects of these changes on the plants and animals within the habitats.

Step #1: What am I searching?

- ⊗ Brainstorm what you know and what you would like to know about the wetlands.

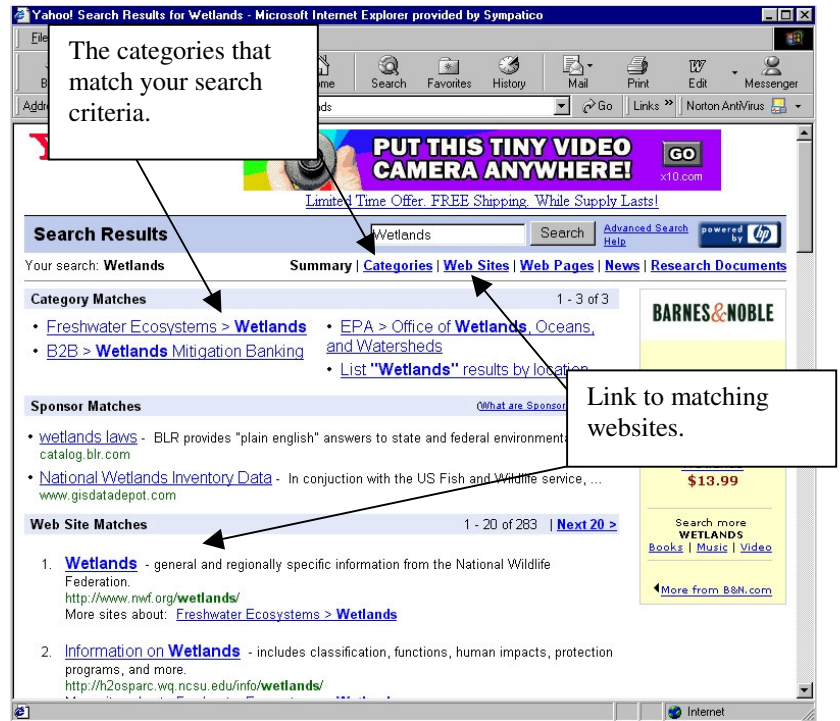
Step #2: Where can I search?

- ⊗ Launch your internet browser (Netscape Navigator or Internet Explorer).
- ⊗ In the address bar, type enter the address for Yahoo!: www.yahoo.com
- ⊗ Type in the search field the term “wetlands” or another chosen search term. Then click on the “search” button.
- ⊗ The next page that will a load will be the search results.



Step #3: What do I do with the search results?

- When your results page loads (see graphic below) you must interpret it.
- Yahoo returns search results in categories, web sites, and web pages.
- The *categories* will be displayed first. These are groups of web sites that have a common theme. If you find a matching category, select it by clicking your mouse button on its title.
- After you select the appropriate Yahoo! category, the next page will load. On this page, the selected *web sites* that directly relate to the selected *category* will be displayed.
- To visit a desired *web site* click on the link provided.



Step #4: Where is the great information?

- The *web site* you visit may or may not be a source of wonderful information. If you find your desired information, enter it on the attached sheet.
- If the selected site does not provide you with the coveted information, use the back button on your browser to return to your search results. Then select another web site and view that site to find relevant information.

Step #5: I've got too much information. How can I get more specific information?

- ☞ To limit your information to what you are specifically looking for use these advanced searching strategies:
 - ☞ Require certain words in the information found.
 - ☞ Restrict certain words from the information found.
 - ☞ Require certain words to be in the document's title.
 - ☞ Require exact phrases.

Strategy	How to do it?
Require certain words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a “+” sign. • Begin with your original search word “wetlands”. Add a focusing word that MUST be within the information. • To find a specific wetland (a fen), type in: wetlands +fen.

Yahoo! Search Results for Wetlands + fen - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Sympatico

Address: <http://search.yahoo.com/search?p=Wetlands+%2B+fen>

Search Results Wetlands + fen Search [Advanced Search](#) [Help](#) powered by

Your search: **Wetlands + fen** [Summary](#) | [Categories](#) | [Web Sites](#) | [Web Pages](#) | [News](#) | [Research Documents](#)

Category Matches 1 - 1 of 1

- [Peatlands > Fens](#)

Web Site Matches 1 - 8 of 8 | [Web Page Matches >](#)

1. [Wetland Communities: Ecology of Fens, Mires and Bogs](#)
<http://www.envf.port.ac.uk/geog/teaching/ecol/b6notes.htm>
 More sites about: [Wetlands > Peatlands](#)
2. [Wicken Fen](#) - one of Britain's oldest nature reserves.
<http://www.wicken.org.uk/>
 More sites about: [Peatlands > Fens](#)
3. [Fen Habitats](#) - takes a look at the three major habitats found within a **fen**, based on plant and animal communities.
<http://www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/suffolk/redgrave/nhistory/habitats.htm>
 More sites about: [Peatlands > Fens](#)
4. [Aims and Problems of Fen Restoration in a Cultural Landscape](#) - offers a case study from Schleswig-Holstein, Germany.
<http://www.pz-oekosys.uni-kiel.de/~michael/fens.htm>
 More sites about: [Peatlands > Fens](#)

Search Books!

 • [WETLANDS + FEN](#)
 • [Search Music!](#)
 • [Search Movies!](#)

Strategy	How to do it?
Restrict certain words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a “ - “ sign. • Begin with your original search word “wetlands”. Add a focusing word that MUST NOT be within the information. • To limit government wetland sites , type in: wetlands -government.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window with the title "Yahoo! Search Results for Wetlands -government - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Sympatico". The address bar contains "http://search.yahoo.com/search?p=Wetlands+government". The search results page features the Yahoo! logo, a banner for "lose 10 lbs. in five weeks eDiets", and a search bar with "Wetlands -government" entered. Below the search bar, there are navigation links for "Summary", "Categories", "Web Sites", "Web Pages", "News", and "Research Documents". The results are divided into "Category Matches" and "Web Site Matches".

Category Matches (1 - 2 of 2):

- [Freshwater Ecosystems > Wetlands](#)
- [B2B > Wetlands Mitigation Banking](#)
- [List "Wetlands -government" results by location](#)

Web Site Matches (1 - 20 of 262 | [Next 20 >](#)):

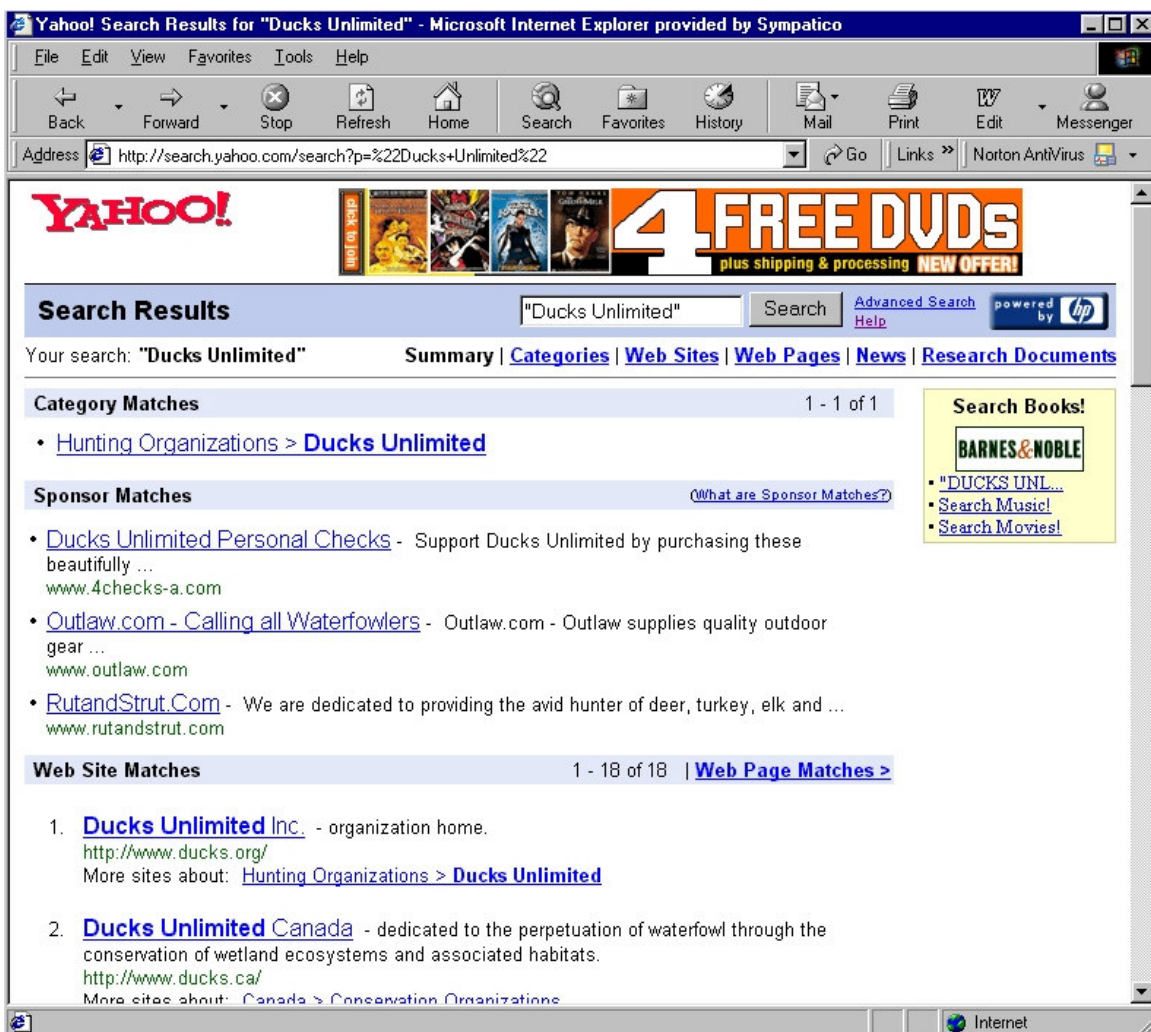
1. [Wetlands](#) - general and regionally specific information from the National Wildlife Federation.
<http://www.nwf.org/wetlands/>
 More sites about: [Freshwater Ecosystems > Wetlands](#)
2. [Information on Wetlands](#) - includes classification, functions, human impacts, protection programs, and more.
<http://h2osparc.wq.ncsu.edu/info/wetlands/>
 More sites about: [Freshwater Ecosystems > Wetlands](#)
3. [Ramsar Convention on Wetlands](#) - an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of **wetlands** and their resources.
<http://www.ramsar.org/>
 More sites about: [Wetlands Organizations > Conservation](#)

On the right side of the page, there is a Barnes & Noble advertisement for a book titled "Wetlands" priced at \$13.99. The ad includes the text "Search more WETLANDS - GOVERNMENT" and links for "Books | Music | Video".

Strategy	How to do it?
Require certain words to be in the document's title.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put t: before your word or phrase. • Think of a phrase or word that you want in a document title. • If you add t: before your word or phrase it must be inside the title of a returned document. • To limit the search type t:wetlands.

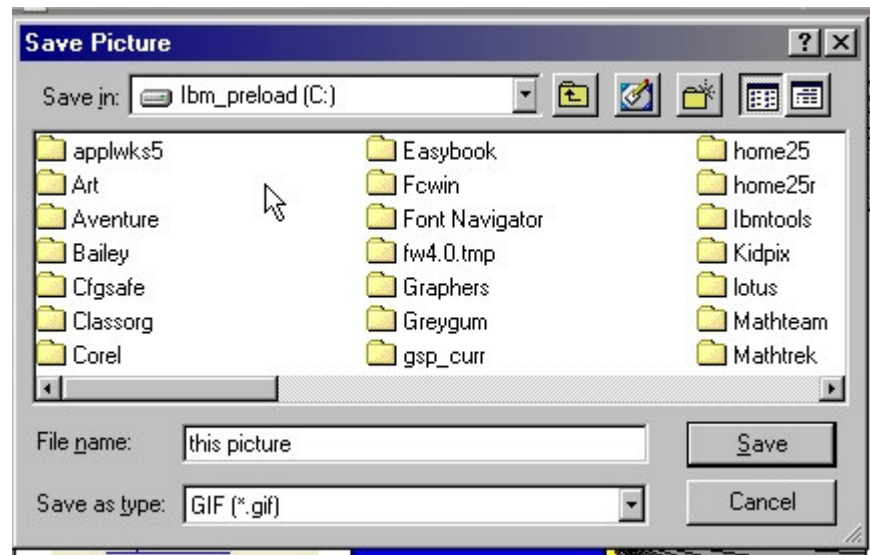
The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window with the title "Yahoo! Search Results for t:wetlands - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Sympatico". The address bar contains "http://search.yahoo.com/search?p=t%3Awetlands". The page features the Yahoo! logo, a "STRESSED OUT?" banner, and a search bar with "t:wetlands" entered. Below the search bar, there are navigation links for "Summary", "Categories", "Web Sites", "Web Pages", "News", and "Research Documents". The search results are divided into "Category Matches" (1-3 of 3) and "Web Site Matches" (1-20 of 69). The "Category Matches" section includes links to "Freshwater Ecosystems > Wetlands", "B2B > Wetlands Mitigation Banking", "EPA > Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds", and "List 't:wetlands' results by location". The "Web Site Matches" section lists four results: 1. "Wetlands" from the National Wildlife Federation, 2. "Information on Wetlands" from h2osparc.wq.ncsu.edu, 3. "Ramsar Convention on Wetlands" from ramsar.org, and 4. "EPA Office of Water Wetlands Division". A "Search Books!" sidebar from Barnes & Noble is also visible on the right.

Strategy	How to do it?
Require specific phrases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put quotes around the phrase. • Think of a phrase that you want to search for. If you are searching DUCKS UNLIMITED, you will get all the search results for DUCKS and for UNLIMITED. • If you put quotation marks around the phrase the information returned will only have the whole phrase in it. • To limit the search type "Ducks Unlimited".

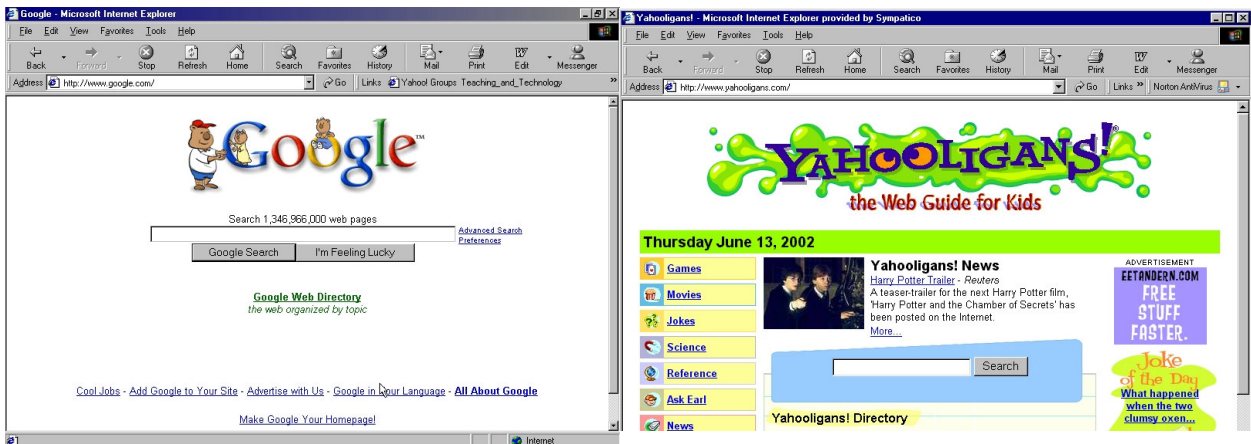


Step #6: How do I keep some of these great pictures?

- ⊗ When using Internet Explorer, move your over top of the desired photo. Click on the **right mouse button**. A new menu will be displayed on the screen, click on **Save Picture As...**
- ⊗ Within, the **Save Picture** window that appears, select the proper location to save the file and click the **Save** button.

**Step #7: Where can I find better information?**

- ⊗ You may find that you want to use a different search engine to find information. To access other quality search engines you can type in their internet address and follow the instructions above to search through the results.
- ⊗ <http://www.google.com>
- ⊗ <http://www.yahooligans.com>

**Step #8: Make sure your information is entered on the attached sheet!**

- ⊗ To ensure that you are able to take all this information forward through our course, fill in the attached sheet with the desired information.

Step #9: How can I record where my information came from?☞ Primary Students:

- ▼ Websites:
Record the url or address of the visited website.
Example: www.nwf.org/wetlands

- ▼ Email:
Record the email address of the sender.
Example: wetlandsbob@nwf.org

☞ Junior Students:

- ▼ Websites:
Record the author's name (if available), then the title of the website and it's url or address (in brackets). Finally state the date that you viewed the website.
Example:
Wetlands – National Wildlife Federation. (<http://www.nwf.org/wetlands>)
06/15/02.

- ▼ Email:
Record the email's author (last, first), then the subject line (in quotation marks).
Finally the sender's email address in brackets.
Example:
Fish, Robert. "A fen is a type of wetland"(wetlandsbob@nwf.org).

☞ Intermediate Students:

- ▼ Websites:
Record the author's name (if available). Then record the title of the website, the date the page was published or updated, and it's url or address (in brackets).
Finally state the date that you viewed the website.
Example:
Wetlands – National Wildlife Federation. 01/31/00.
(<http://www.nwf.org/wetlands>) 06/15/02.

- ▼ Email:
Record the email's author (last, first), then the subject line (in quotation marks).
Finally the sender's email address in brackets and date of message.
Example:
Fish, Robert. "A fen is a type of wetland"
(wetlandsbob@nwf.org) 06/15/02.