Demo a database activity[[1]](#footnote-0)

**Black and Africana Studies Research Guide**

The [Black and Africana Studies Research Guide](https://library.geneseo.edu/blackandafricanstudies) lists scholarly resources (databases, journal titles, online resources, student works, and more) to begin your research.

**Activity Prompt**

1. Group think and pick one topic to practice searching.

2. Select a database from the **Black and Africana Studies Research Guide** and explore it using your group’s topic.

3. Make sure you can explain all the features listed in the “Peer Teach” section below.

4. Divide up the presentation among members & plan your lesson.

5. Teach the class how to effectively use the database by covering all the features in the “Peer Teach” section.

**Explore!**

1. Type in 1-3 keywords or subject headings for your main search concepts. Explore the “Refine Results” area.
2. Click on the “**Advanced Search**” link—experiment with adding a keyword to the second search box.
3. Read the “Subject Terms” section on the description of the item.
4. Get/Cite the article: Click on the title of an article and read the abstract. Explore the icons that allow you to Email and Cite.
5. Discuss each of the items below and be prepared to teach them to your fellow students.

**Peer Teach!**

Include all of the following items in your group presentation:

* Share what your database contains (Hint: This information is provided in the A–Z Databases List).
* Demonstrate how to get to the database from the library home page.
* Demonstrate a sample search and explain one of the following:
  + Explain how to narrow results by date.
  + Demonstrate how to narrow your search by subject and explain why you might want to do this.
  + Demonstrate advanced search and explain the difference between using AND, OR, and NOT.
  + Demonstrate how to get a citation for an article and how to email an article to yourself.
* Feel free to share anything else you think others might find helpful.

1. This worksheet has been adapted from:

   Campbell, Sheena. "Library Database Teach-In." CORA (Community of Online Research Assignments), 2016. <https://projectcora.org/assignment/library-database-teach>. [↑](#footnote-ref-0)