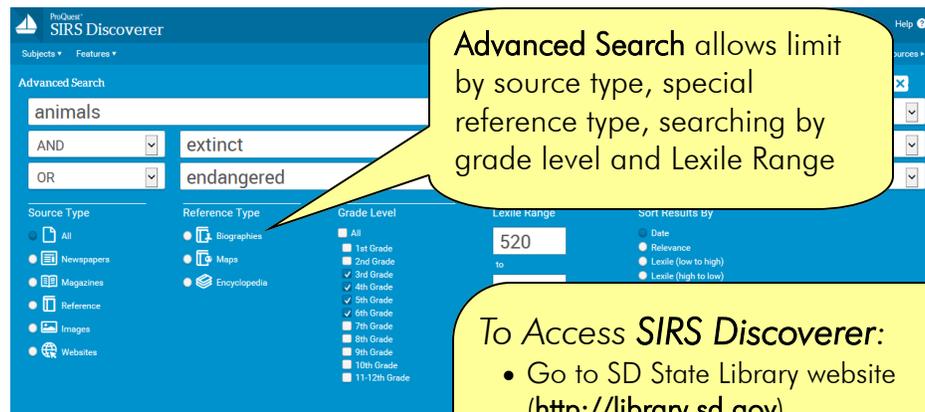
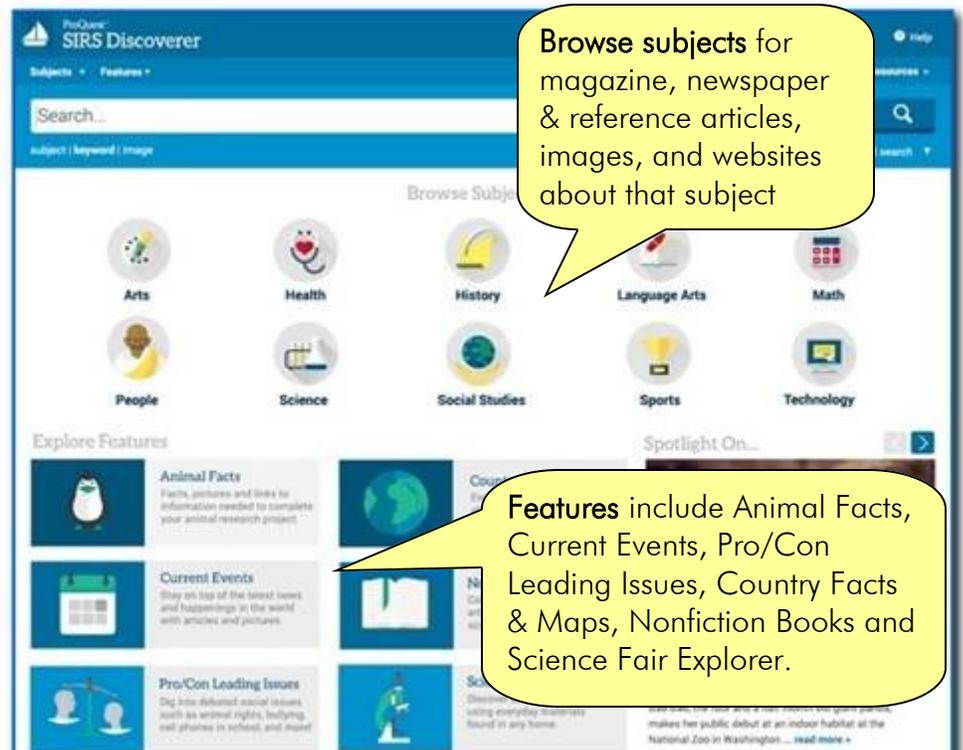


# SIRS Discoverer

## SIRS Discoverer features include:

- All articles are full-text.
- Three ways to search:
  - Subject heading
  - Keyword
  - Browse subjects
- Biographies of nearly 2000 famous and notable people
- Country Facts of nearly 200 countries plus every US State and Canadian Province
- Nonfiction ebooks
- Animal Facts
- Pro/Con Leading Issues contain information about current controversial topics
- Images
- Article read-aloud
- Over 3000 printable maps including:
  - US and World historical (i.e. Civil War maps)
  - Outline
  - Nations and Regions
- SIRS stands for "Social Issues Resources Series."
- Most articles have two reading levels:
  - Lexile—matches reader ability and text difficulty
  - Grade level

SIRS Discoverer provides selected full-text articles that support grades K-8. Every article has a summary and a reading level. SIRS Discoverer's special features include biographies, over 3000 maps, country studies and an encyclopedia.



## To Access SIRS Discoverer:

- Go to SD State Library website (<http://library.sd.gov>)
  - Click *Online Resources >> A to Z Complete Listing*
  - Click *SIRS Discoverer*
- Enter your Library Barcode and

ProQuest SIRS Discoverer

Subjects Features

keyword | subject

Sort By

- Date
- Relevance
- Lexile (high to low)
- Lexile (low to high)

Source Type

- Newspapers 89
- Magazines 297
- Reference 68
- Images 154
- Websites 11

Grade Level (Lexile Range)

- 1st Grade (190L - 530L)
- 2nd Grade (420L - 650L)
- 3rd Grade (520L - 820L)
- 4th Grade (740L - 940L)

**Penguin Power**  
National Geographic Explorer  
Levels: 4,5  
"Travel from icy glaciers to steaming hot springs and see how penguins survive in extreme places." (National Geographic Explorer) Read about penguins and their different types of habitats. A quiz is included.

**The Amazing Penguin Rescue**  
Storyworks; Apr/May 2011; Lexile Score: 81Q; Grade Levels: 3,4  
"In June 2000, a massive oil spill off the coast of South Africa coated 40,000 African penguins in thick, toxic oil. This is the story of their remarkable rescue." (Storyworks) Learn how people captured and cleaned penguins after this oil spill. An activity is included.

**Penguin Party!**  
SuperScience; Jan 2013; Lexile Score: 106Q; Grade Levels: 6,7,8,9

Streamlined results page provides familiar web experience; allows users to easily narrow results by source type, grade level, Lexile, and date range; empowers users to quickly identify needed content through article summary and image preview; helps identify related topics

Scientific name: *Tyto alba*



**Classification**  
What kind of animal are they?  
Barn owls are birds. Their babies hatch from eggs.

**Physical Description**  
What do they look like?  
Barn owls have large, round heads and faces. They have short tails, large wings, and long legs. They have four sharp claws, called talons, on each foot. Barn owls have two forward-facing eyes and a small beak. Their feathers are light brown or tan on their backs and heads, and white under their bellies and on their faces.

**Behavior**  
How do they act in the wild?  
Barn owls use their excellent hearing and their large eyes to hunt for prey. They are *nocturnal hunters*, which means they look for food at night. They have special feathers that allow them to fly silently in the air and sneak up on their prey. To communicate with each other, barn owls make many different types of sounds, but they do not hoot. Female barn owls lay 4 to 7 eggs in the spring. The eggs will hatch after about one month and the young owls will learn to fly when they are about 3 months old.

**Habitat**  
Where do they live in?  
Barn owls live in grasslands, forests, open fields, or anywhere they can find hollow trees, barns, or caves.

**Distribution**  
Where do they live in the world?  
Barn owls are found all over the world, except Antarctica.

**Population**  
How many are there in the world?  
There are no population estimates for barn owls.

**Diet**  
What do they eat?  
Barn owls are carnivores. They eat mice, rats, voles, fish, frogs, and smaller birds.

**Life span**  
How long do they live in the wild?  
Barn owls can live 4 to 20 years.

**Conservation status**  
Are they endangered?  
Barn owls are not endangered. Their status is Least Concern.

Animal facts include scientific name, habitat and more

**Animals**

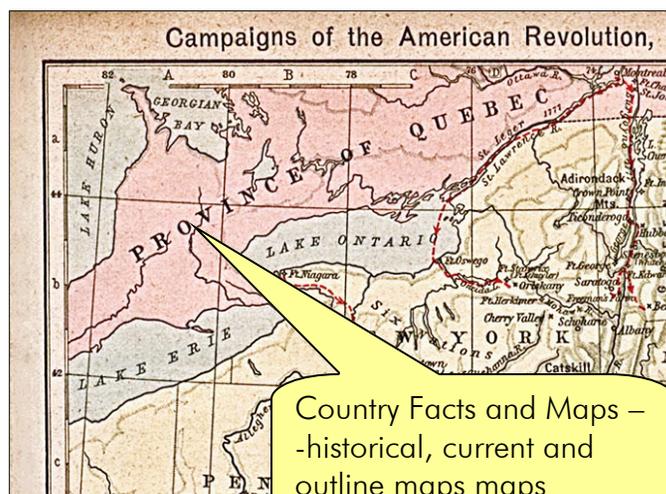


More...

Nonfiction ebooks—publishers include DK, Scholastic and more. Unlimited users per ebook

Picture for article:

**Picture title:** 1775-1781: Campaigns of the American Revolution  
**Caption:** From The Historical Atlas by William R. Shepherd, 1923  
[Printable PDF](#)



Country Facts and Maps – -historical, current and outline maps

**EXPLORE A TOPIC**

- In the kitchen
- In the yard
- In the bathroom
- In the junk drawer
- In the recycling bin
- In the garbage bin

Science Fair Explorer—simple experiments that use everyday materials

SCIENCE FAIR EXPLORER MUTE SOUNDS

If you have questions about using this resource, contact a **South Dakota Librarian**.