Plants and Symbolism

Reference Books
Reference books are a good place to start your research. The following list of books will help you narrow down your topic, find additional search terms, and get a general overview of your topic before you begin your research.

Plants – General
- *Encyclopedia of Water Plants* – REF SB 423 .S76 1967
- *Trees* - REF QK 475 .6 .C6 1992

Symbolism
- *1000 Symbols* -- REF BF 458 .S63 2002

Books and the Library Catalog
Once you have narrowed down your topic, search the Library Catalog for additional book resources on your specific topic. Here are some search tips and strategies:

Use the following **subject headings** for a simple subject search:

| Botany | Plants, Folklore | Flowers |
| Plants | Plants, Propagation | Grasses |
| Plants, Rare | Trees | Shrubs |

Browse the **QK (Botany)** section for relevant sources on plants. A few **recommended books** on plants or symbolism include:

- *Folklore and Symbolism of Flowers, Plants and Trees* – QK 83 .L4
- *The Culture of Flowers* – GN 476 .73 .G66 1993

Dictionary of Plant Lore by Donald Watts - Electronic Book
Electronic Resources for Articles, Essays, and eBooks
You may find magazine, journal, and newspaper articles; essays; and full-text ebooks on plants in the following electronic resources. To access these electronic resources on campus, go to the library’s Web page and click on the link for Periodicals and Electronic Resources; to access them off-campus, once you log into the database, you will need to put in a username (your student ID number using a hyphen such as 1234-5678) and a password (your last name).

- **eBooks** (provided by EBSCO and by Springer) – electronic full-text copies of published print materials.

- **Science in Context** – science-related encyclopedias and reference books; articles from magazines, scholarly journals, and newspapers; and visual sources.


- **GreenFile** – full-text access to science related materials.

- **EBSCO Power Search or INFOTRAC Power Search** -- articles from magazines, scholarly journals, and newspapers in all disciplines and on all topics.

- **Britannica Online** – a reliable and comprehensive general resource combining the Encyclopedia Britannica, Meriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary and Thesaurus, and authoritative articles.

Print Periodicals in the Library
The following periodicals are found in the Periodicals section of the library and are filed in alphabetical order by title:

- Horticulture
- National Geographic
- Natural History
- National Wildlife
- Nature
- Scientific American

Web Sites
The following Web sites will help you find reliable Internet resources for your paper or presentation:

- **American Journal of Botany** [http://www.amjbot.org/](http://www.amjbot.org/) - From the Botanical Society of America (BSA), this provides extensive peer-reviewed research on all aspects of plants.

- **BBC Nature Wildlife** [http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/plants](http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/plants) - From BBC, this provides information on plants, including content on unusual plants and their survival strategies.

- **Plants Database** [http://plants.usda.gov/java/](http://plants.usda.gov/java/) - From the United States Department of Agriculture, search the site by common or scientific name for extensive information on native and non-native plants.
Notes for Instruction Librarian:

Misc. Visual Resources for possible use during ENG 099 Library Instruction Session:

Britannica Online (from OCC Library “Electronic Database” recommendation list)
Venus Fly Trap 1 Minute Video - Click on left tab “Video, Images, Audio” and click on first video link

BBC Nature Wildlife (from “Website” recommendation list)
http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/adaptations/Mimicry#p00lxt3h
Passion-flower and Mimicry 2 Minute Video - (start at 30 seconds)