

Searching Help

What to do when . . .

You get too few sources:	You get too many sources:
<p>1. Think of Synonyms.</p> <p><u>You tried:</u> <i>teen</i></p> <p><u>Try:</u> <i>teenager, teenagers, adolescent, juvenile, youngster, “young adult”</i></p>	<p>1. Use AND to separate terms.</p> <p><u>You tried:</u> <i>pollution Mexico environment</i></p> <p><u>Try:</u> <i>pollution AND environment AND Mexico</i></p>
<p>2. Use Truncation (? or *) for more word endings.</p> <p><u>You tried:</u> <i>Nursing</i></p> <p><u>Try:</u> <i>Nurs?</i> (or <i>Nurs*</i>)</p> <p>(This will look for <i>nurse, nurses, nursing, nursery</i>, and other words that begin with the letters NURS)</p>	<p>2. Use Quotation Marks to search words together.</p> <p><u>You tried:</u> <i>world wide web</i></p> <p><u>Try:</u> <i>“world wide web”</i></p> <p>(This will look for the words world wide web all together in that order, as a phrase, instead of finding each word separately)</p>
<p>3. Don’t use terms that are too Specific.</p> <p><u>You tried:</u> <i>kangaroo AND breeding AND Australia</i></p> <p><u>Try:</u> <i>marsupial AND breeding</i></p>	<p>3. Don’t use terms that are too Broad.</p> <p><u>You tried:</u> <i>psychology</i></p> <p><u>Try:</u> <i>adolescent AND “behavioral psychology”</i></p>

Remember: When in doubt, ask a BCTC librarian--we are happy to help!