

Web Sites 2

together to look like one single page. I wanted the students to access any link and be able to return directly back to our library Web page simply by clicking on the Home icon. With the use of frames, Mike was able to make the links to the databases we subscribe to as well as many others I felt were relevant.

It took Mike about 40 hours of code typing and arranging. Small changes were made each time Mike brought me his work in progress. We usually met at lunch, and he would take it home to fine tune it. Arrangement, colours and links took a large portion of time.

On the left of the home page on the main frame we created links to our online databases: Electric Library, SIRS Knowledge, Pages of the Past and World Book Encyclopedia. (My goal is to add our Spectrum catalogue to the top of this column when we can afford to).

Next, we put links to two search engines: Google and Vivisimo.

In addition, we added links to:

- Bartlett's Quotations
- CIA World Factbook
- Biographies
- Stats Canada

– sites I thought students would use when researching a variety of disciplines.

Along the top I added links to the
Student Research Process
APA and MLA Style Guides
BCIVS Academic Honesty Policy
the White Pine Reading Program
and Library News/Coming Events.

Lastly, at the bottom of the page I provided links to

- two career sites
- our local public library
- the French immersion homework page
- a list of book review sites and
- a current news site.

Throughout the process I met with several colleagues on an informal basis to get their ideas and feedback. When it was finished, I presented it at a department heads' meeting.

I knew before we set up our site that I wanted it to be a one-stop-shop page whereby students could view all links without having to scroll down the page. I feel there are still areas we can improve upon. This includes the research page, which could provide more of a step-by-step guide through the four stages. But for the most part we are happy with its usage.

Comments from students, parents and staff have been positive. As Mike wrote in his co-op reflection, "I feel that there are not enough Web sites to give me the information I need when trying to research for a project. The BCI Web site does. It has many beneficial elements to it, such as help against plagiarism, how to cite sources, and links to other important Web sites which are used frequently. It is very beneficial for students because it gives all the information needed for school projects on one single page." ■