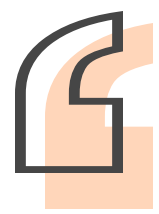
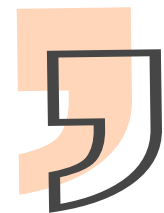


## Reasons to teach with Google

- Students are already using it
- Using Google frequently has not made most students very good at it
- Engages student where they are in their research skills development
- Familiar context in which to develop understanding of how digital information is stored and retrieved, search logic, and matching an information need to the appropriate source
- Google is sometimes the best tool to match an information need



If Google users were able to understand... the complexity of Google's operation, their expectations for magical results might be tempered... and their ability to use the tools enhanced.  
-Vaidhyathan



# Teaching Google at the Reference Desk

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## Abstract

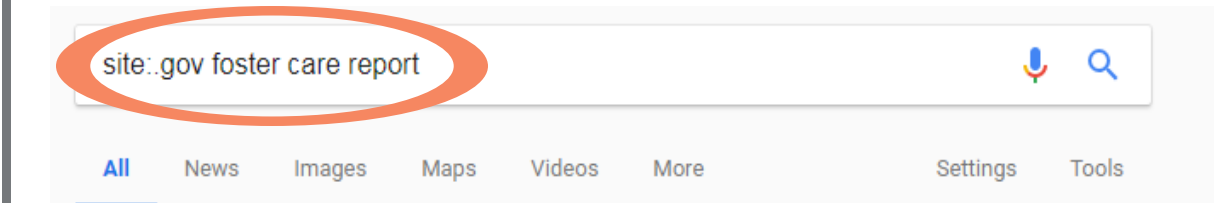
There is no shortage of discourse in the scholarly literature about the age of Google and the perceived effects of this search tool on the information literacy development of students. In the case of reference librarians, this shift has left questions about our role in information seeking resulting in a “librarians vs. Google” narrative which can be seen in discussions within the discipline and in popular media. This perspective both ignores the utility of Google as an information seeking tool and the reality that most undergraduate students will not have access to scholarly journals and proprietary databases after graduation. I argue that talking about and using Google in reference is not antithetical to helping students develop strong information literacy and research skills, but essential to it.

## Examples of useful research tools for the reference desk

### Google Scholar citation lookup

[PDF] Transporting good library instruction practices into the web environment: An analysis of online tutorials  
NH Dewald - The Journal of Academic Librarianship, 1999 - academia.edu  
Instruction librarians face challenges to do more with limited time, staff, and resources. Teaching faculty appreciate librarians' help in teaching students how to access and evaluate traditional library information available electronically and in print, as well as the many ...  
☆ 91 Cited by 251 Related articles All 7 versions Web of Science: 60

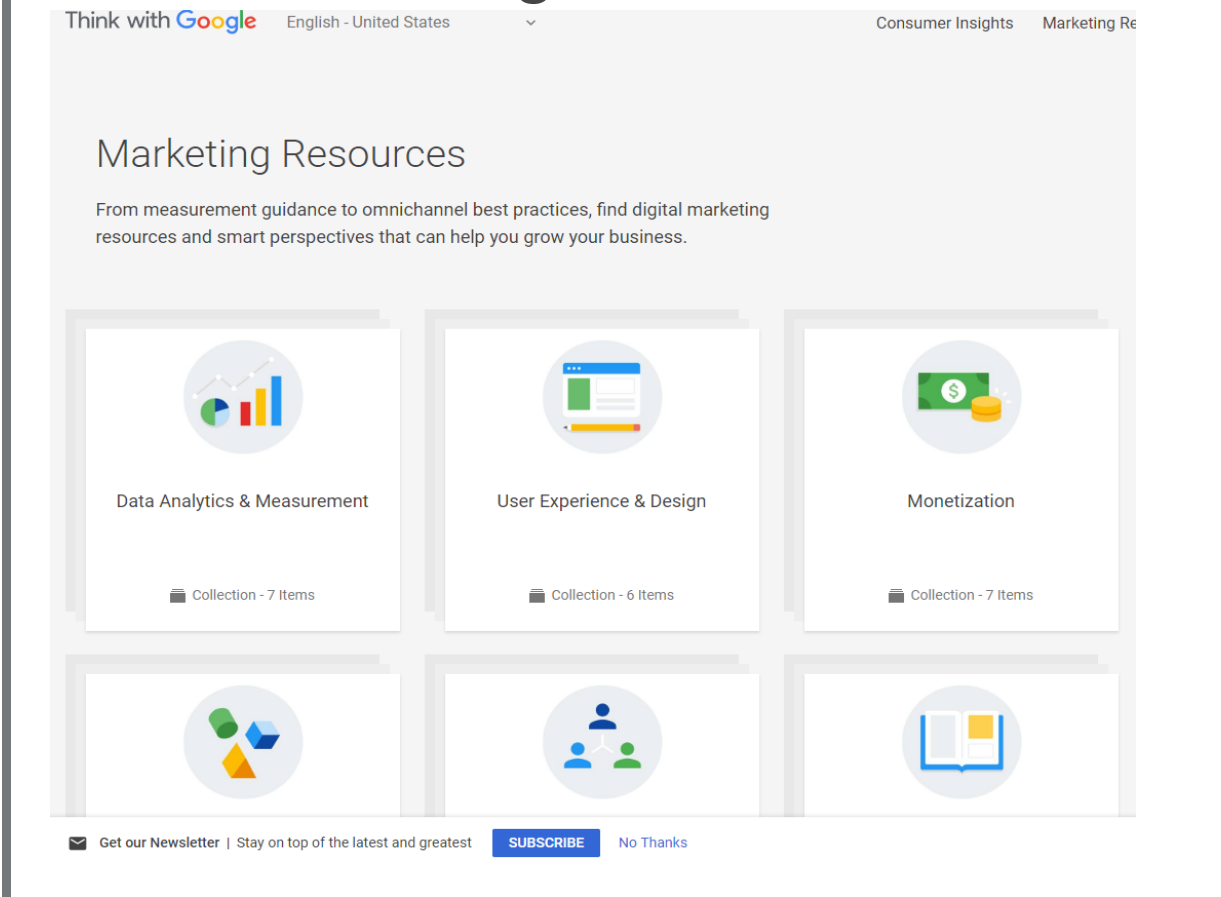
### Site type search



About 3,540,000 results (0.66 seconds)

Adoption & Foster Care Statistics | Children's Bureau | ACF  
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/research-data-technology/statistics-research/afcars  
The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) collects case-level information on all children in foster care and those who have been adopted with title IV-E agency involvement. Trends in Foster Care and Adoption - Presents national estimates of foster care ...

### Market or Digital Privacy Research with "Think with Google"



## Reasons Librarians might not teach with Google

Googling wastes a teachable moment that could be used to teach on using scholarly databases

Teaching Google is valuable too!

Fear of professional obsolescence

Exploring new ways for students to use Google is a way to add value to their research experience

Skepticism about the quality of information

Librarians are the perfect people to work with students on developing skills at evaluating web sources!

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