

UQL Cyberschool - Finding journal articles for Biology: Animal Behaviour

Scholarly/Academic Journals: a publication is scholarly when the articles' authors are academics/scholars/researchers/experts in the field. There may be a review or refereeing process (for peer viewed journals).

“A publication is considered to be **peer reviewed** if its articles go through an official editorial process that involves review and approval by the author's peers (people who are experts in the same subject area). Most (but not all) scholarly publications are peer reviewed.” *Proquest database information, 2007*

The articles will be supported by bibliographies and will assume readers' prior knowledge of the subject. Reading and writing scholarly articles is an important part of an academic's work.

What is a scientific journal? “In academic publishing, a scientific journal is a periodical publication intended to further the progress of science, usually by reporting new research... Scientific journals contain articles that have been peer reviewed, in an attempt to ensure that articles meet the journal's standards of quality, and scientific validity... The publication of the results of research is an essential part of the scientific method. If they are describing experiments or calculations, they must supply enough details that an independent researcher could repeat the experiment or calculation to verify the results. Each such journal article becomes part of the permanent scientific record.” http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific_journal

Searching for journal articles

Search terms: 'animal behaviour' behaviour (English spelling) behavior (American spelling)

Search alternatively for 'behaviour 'and behavior' to see if it makes a difference in the number of results. When searching the UQ Library catalogue and databases, if you are unsure of which spelling to use you can use a wildcard symbol eg. behavio*r or behavio?r. Not all databases use the same symbol – check the Help page in the database. Check the subject headings in the item record.

List and try alternative search terms/synonyms:

- impact / effect / influence / change
- domestic, wild, wildlife, native
- eating / feeding / foraging
- type of animal - dogs, reptiles, primates, invertebrates, fish, crows
- behaviour - bonding, mating, mimicry, aggression, communication
- behavioural influence - environment, global warming, salinisation

Broaden or narrow your search terms if you are not getting many results or too many results
eg. gorilla berengei / mountain gorillas / silverbacks / gorillas / primates

Journal articles have a list of references at the end. If a particular journal article is useful for your research, the articles listed in its references may also be of use.

Most journals for Science at UQ are in electronic format. Older issues and discontinued journals are warehoused. If you know the name of a particular journal, type the name into the Library catalogue. UQ Library may have the journal in print.

There is a subset of UQ Library journals that students can access online when logged into a UQ Library computer with 'guest' as the username. Therefore they can't be accessed from home or school. These are identified as "walk in".

These online journals and databases will be useful for searching for articles about animal behaviour:
<http://www.library.uq.edu.au/database>

Science Online	CSIRO online
ScienceDirect	Australia New Zealand reference centre
Journal of animal science online (via Highwire)	SpringerLink
JSTOR	

Finding journal articles using the Internet at home

(Note- you have no external internet access when logging in as a "Guest" at UQ Library)

1. **Scirus** <http://www.scirus.com/> – a search engine for scientific information. Use the Advanced Search form. Note: In your search you can specify dates, file type (select PDF) and subject area (select Agricultural and Biological Sciences)

2. **Australian Faunal Directory**
www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/abrs/online-resources/fauna/afd/home

3. Some Open Access journals:

International Journal of Animal and Veterinary Advances
<http://www.maxwellsci.com/jp/j2p.php?jid=IJAVA>

BMC Veterinary Research
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcvetres>

Bioline International <http://www.bioline.org.br/>

E-Print Network <http://www.osti.gov/eprints/>

4. **Google Advanced search** – specify English language, .pdf as file type and domain as .edu
5. **Google Scholar** – use the advanced search form.
If there is a particular article but can't get full-text you need put the name of the journal in the UQ Library catalogue to see if the Library has the journal it in print for the edition you need.