



## Working With Topic Finder in Gale Periodical Resources

**Topic Finder** is a tool available in Gale periodical resources (also known as InfoTrac resources). Topic Finder helps researchers discover new search words (keywords), making it easier to narrow or broaden their topic visually. Topic Finder organizes results based on frequently occurring terms, allowing users to hone in on targeted topics, envision connections between topics, and create new paths of inquiry. Topic Finder also assists visual learners make relationships between concepts and terms.

Users can now use Topic Finder to begin a search query or after running any search to analyze results. This guide will show you how to use Topic Finder with search results and as a search tool. We'll use *General OneFile* as an example; refer to page two of this document for a list of all periodical resources that offer Topic Finder.

### Why Use Topic Finder?

- When users have a broad idea of a topic they want to investigate or are having trouble coming up with a research topic, they can click the Topic Finder search from the gold toolbar. After entering a general term, users will be presented with a term wheel that provides a wealth of potential topics.
- When a search provides a large number of results, users can click the link from the left hand sidebar into Topic Finder. Then users can use Topic Finder to hone in on more specific sets of results.
- Viewing Topic Finder results allows users to visualize research connections they may not have considered. For example, after running Topic Finder, a user may uncover multiple topics that can be compared to one another.

### Where Can I Find Topic Finder?

You'll find **Topic Finder** in two places in Gale periodical products:

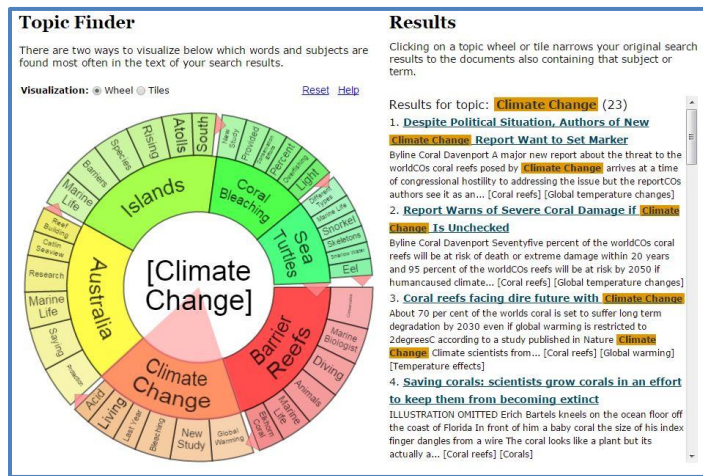
1. As a search option in the gold tool bar.
2. Any search result screen; the link appears in the left hand sidebar with your limiting options.

The screenshot shows the General OneFile website interface. The navigation bar is gold and contains links for HOME PAGE, SUBJECT GUIDE SEARCH, PUBLICATION SEARCH, ADVANCED SEARCH, TOPIC FINDER (circled in red with a '1'), and HIGHLIGHTED ARTICLES. Below the navigation bar is a search area with tabs for Keyword, Subject, Publication Title, and Entire Document. The search bar contains the text 'Search for Articles...'. To the right of the search bar is a 'Bookmark this Page' link and a 'What is General OneFile?' section. On the right side of the page, there is a 'Your Results' sidebar. The sidebar lists various media types: Magazines (3119), Academic Journals (1166), Books (166), News (5322), Images (16), Videos (15), and Audios (75). Below these is an 'Analyze' section (circled in red with a '2') which includes a 'Topic Finder' link (also circled in red). Below the 'Analyze' section is a 'Limit Search by' section with 'RELATED SUBJECTS:' and 'Coral reefs (550)'.

### What is Topic Finder Analyzing?

Topic Finder analyzes key aspects of results, like the first 250 words of a full-text article, article titles, and subject headings. Citation only results are also evaluated.

Questions? Contact Gale Technical Support  
1-800-877-4253



The Topic Finder tool generates a visual representation of your results by topic and subtopic based on an analysis of frequently occurring and related terms. Your results initially are displayed in a **Wheel View**; you may switch to a **Tile View** as well. In Tile View, the user must click on the large tiles to view narrower terms. Use the **Visualization** toggle on the left to move between views.

Popular topics related to your search are displayed on the inner ring of the Wheel View and in the larger tiles in Tile View. More specific terms appear in the outer wheel or the smaller tiles. Both views are also a heat map – darker reds and oranges are more popular terms than yellows and greens.

To view results on a topic simply click on the topic and your results will populate in the box to the right of your visual results. As users click around in a Topic Finder, results on the right update dynamically, allowing for one-click access into relevant content. Simply click on an article to view it.

In the examples above, we have a search on *coral reefs* in both Wheel and Tile View. Topic Finder can help us narrow that topic. Terms in the wheel are helpful as they provide key terms for issues facing coral reefs today. Users can click into those articles to learn more but now also have more key terms to use as part of search strategies to do more research.

This is just one example of how Topic Finder can help researchers. *Give it a try and see what it can do for you!*

### Which Gale Resources Offer Topic Finder?

Academic ASAP  
 Academic OneFile  
 Advanced Placement Fine Arts and Music Collection  
 Advanced Placement Global History Collection  
 Advanced Placement Government and Social Studies Collection  
 Advanced Placement Honors Literature Collection  
 Advanced Placement Psychology Collection  
 Advanced Placement Science Collection  
 Advanced Placement U.S. History Collection  
 Agriculture Collection  
 Business Economics and Theory  
 Communications and Mass Media Collection  
 Computer Database  
 CPI.Q (Canadian Periodicals)  
 Criminal Justice Collection  
 Culinary Arts Collection

Discovering Collection  
 Diversity Studies Collection  
 Educator's Reference Complete  
 Environmental Studies and Policy Collection  
 Expanded Academic ASAP  
 Fine Arts and Music Collection  
 Gardening, Landscape and Horticulture Collection  
 Gender Studies Collection  
 General Business File ASAP  
 General OneFile  
 General Reference Center  
 General Reference Center Gold  
 General Science Collection  
 Health Reference Center Academic  
 Home Improvement Collection  
 Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Collection  
 Information Science and Library Issues Collection  
 Informe Academico  
 InfoTrac Newsstand

Insurance and Liability Collection  
 Junior Edition  
 LegalTrac  
 Military and Intelligence Database  
 Nursing and Allied Health Collection  
 Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Collection  
 Pop Culture Collection  
 Popular Magazines  
 PowerSearch  
 Professional Collection  
 Psychology Collection  
 Religion and Philosophy Collection  
 Small Business Collection  
 Student Edition  
 U.S. History Collection  
 Vocations and Careers Collection  
 War and Terrorism Collection  
 World History Collection  
 Custom Journal Products  
 Custom Newspaper Product