

why have just a slice, when you can have the whole

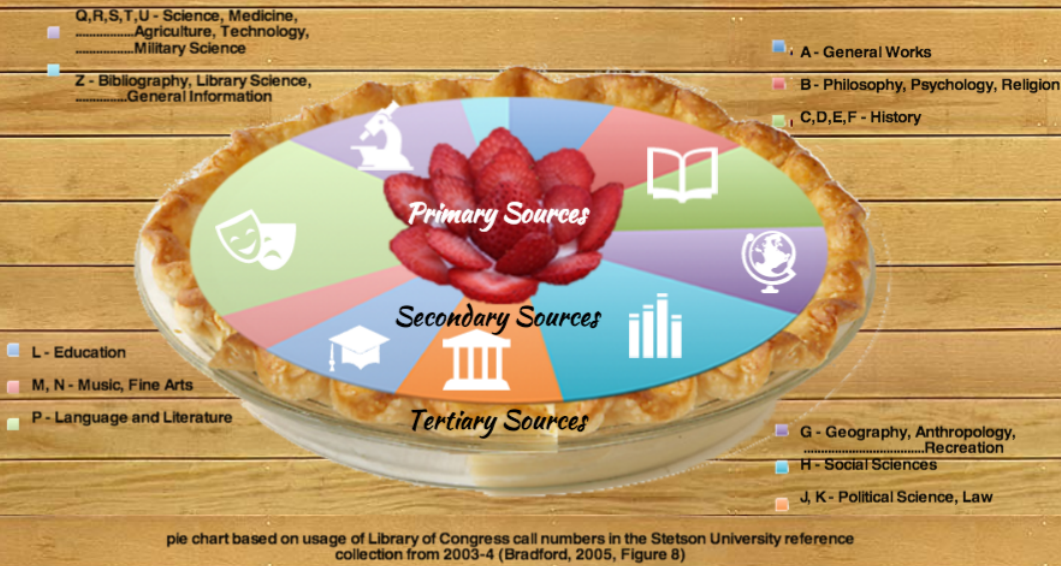
Research Pie

The Information Hierarchy



the process of turning raw data into something useful or even transformative

(Rowley, 2007)



Types of Information Sources

Primary Sources

are like the fruit in your pie - the main ingredient, and good for you, too!
they are original materials, from the time period under consideration



Secondary Sources are like the other ingredients that make up the pie filling
they provide interpretation of information from primary sources



Tertiary Sources

are like the crust . . .
you shouldn't eat it by itself, but it's how you start to make your pie

they are summaries or condensed versions which provide a good introduction or overview, but don't get very deep

encyclopedias (Wikipedia!)
almanacs
bibliographies
chronologies
manuals
dictionaries
fact books
guidebooks
indexes
abstracts
textbooks

but remember -
it all depends on context

what would usually be a secondary source can be a primary source depending on what you're researching

References

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