

# Free image databases

The worldwide web is a wonderful source of information, but sometimes the sheer amount of content can be overwhelming. Where do you start looking? In each issue of *Science in School*, we will suggest useful websites for particular purposes.

Are you looking for a good picture to use in a worksheet, an overhead or a poster? You need it to be good quality, but you don't want to pay to use it. Here is a selection of our favourite free image databases (you may even recognise some of the pictures).

The ECOD-BIO picture pool contains almost 500 varied biological images:  
[www.picturepool.ecod-bio.org](http://www.picturepool.ecod-bio.org)

The Multimedia Gallery of the European Space Agency (ESA) contains over 3000 images and videos, as well as other types of visual material about space:  
[www.esa.int/esa-mmgi/mmghome.pl](http://www.esa.int/esa-mmgi/mmghome.pl)

Interactions.org, a website designed for communicators in particle physics, has an extensive database of beautiful images:  
[www.interactions.org/imagebank](http://www.interactions.org/imagebank)

Lightsources.org provides news, information and educational materials about the world's light-source facilities. Its database has a good variety of images:  
[www.lightsources.org/imagebank](http://www.lightsources.org/imagebank)

The [www.freeimages.co.uk](http://www.freeimages.co.uk) database provides over 2500 images covering a wide range of subjects, including science.

If you use images from the databases listed above, it is advisable to check the conditions under which the images may be reproduced.

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**To suggest types of websites that you would like us to review, or to tell us about your own favourite websites, email [editor@scienceinschool.org](mailto:editor@scienceinschool.org). In the subject field of the email, please include the text 'Website review'.**