This is a tutorial from the librarians at Lone Star College—North Harris. The purpose of this video is to teach library users how to use the database Small Business Reference Center. This database contains hundreds of full-text periodicals and books, business plans and videos related to creating and managing small businesses.

From the database homepage, you can find:
- Essential information about starting, purchasing and selling a business.
- Information about particular industries or common types of small businesses.
- Information about start-up processes.
- Step-by-step instructions for writing a business plan.
- Videos about small business operations.

You can also search all of the materials in the database using the search field at the top. Let’s explore our searching options. Click on Advanced Search.

Here is the advanced search form. As an example, let’s look for information about the storage industry. Type storage into the search bar.

Many of the sources in this database are available in full text. But not all of them are. To limit your search results to full text sources only, check off the box marked Full Text.

When doing research, make sure that your information sources are up-to-date. Articles about the storage industry written thirty years ago may no longer be accurate. So let’s limit our search results to the past five years. In the Published Date menu, type in the years 2008 and 2013.

Now click on Search.

Here is the search results page. The database has returned 6,541 items from our search.
The first item looks like it might be relevant. Click on the title to find out.

Here is an industry report about warehousing and storage. If you’d like to keep this article, hover your pointer over the bottom of the page. A menu of options will appear. To save the article as a PDF file, click on the floppy disk icon. To print the article, click on the printer icon. To email the article, click on the envelope icon.