A **keyword** (or word) search retrieves words or phrases from several important fields, usually title, subject and abstract.

**Keyword search: AIDS**

- **Title:** Living with HIV/AIDS in School.
- **Pub. Date:** 1993
- **Journal:** Sedletter, v6 n2 p1-15, Jun-Aug 1993
- **Abstract:** The article looks at the incidence of AIDS and reviews legislation related to AIDS infection and school attendance. School policy as it relates to students who have tested positive for HIV is considered. It is noted that the only known cure is prevention and the only prevention is active, effective education. The need for health care for HIV/AIDS as a long-term chronic illness is stressed.
- **Subject Headings:** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, Adolescents.

A keyword search usually retrieves more items than a subject search, but they may not all be relevant. For example, a search on AIDS could retrieve:

- aids for the hearing impaired
- school aids
- AIDS (the disease)

A **subject search** involves searching for a "subject heading" in a database or catalog.

A **subject heading** is a consistent term used when there are several ways to state a concept, topic, or idea. For example, the disease AIDS may also be called Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

**Subject Search:** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.