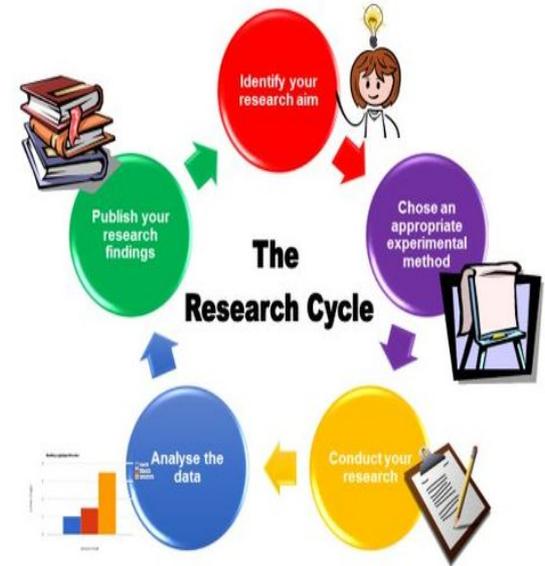


Going Beyond the Surface



RESEARCH

- The systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of data to answer a certain question or solve problems.
(Wickremainghe, 2015)
- It includes collecting, recording and organising information, sourcing and evaluating information, and publishing your research.

Collecting, Recording and Organising Information

Perseverance - You rarely find what you are looking for the first time round. Don't give up if you are not successful immediately.

Use the text features, table of contents and index. It saves time when locating specific information.

Narrow the main idea or question for more accurate and relevant results e.g. instead of searching “planets” search specifically for the “temperature on Mars”.

Take notes in bullet format - aim for no more than five words per bullet.

It is essential to put information in your own words to avoid plagiarism (an act of using or closely imitating the work of another author and passing them as your own).



Sourcing and Evaluating Information

Use quality sources at a reading level you can understand e.g. published books, magazines, news articles, encyclopedias.

Always record your source in the correct bibliographic format to save time later.

The internet offers information and data from all over the world. So much information is available, and because that information can appear to be fairly “anonymous”, it is necessary to develop skills to evaluate what you find.

Useful Internet Sites for Evaluating Sources

<http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/eval.html>
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_eval_source.html

<http://www210.oakton.edu/projects/lby2002/eval.aspx>
<http://www.quick.org.uk/menu.htm>

For primary students use child friendly search engines such as: www.kidrex.org and www.kyvl.org/elementary



Publishing Your Research

CIS requires students grade 6-12 to use MLA format. The Owl Purdue website is a great resource that provides an explanation and example format for a variety of sources.

Ask questions - Not sure about the validity of a source? Can't determine the publisher? Ask your teachers- they love to help. Asking questions shows that you are engaged and working hard on your challenging task!

Ensure your work is in the correct format with name, date, title, page layout consistent with the teacher's expectations.

Confidence- There will be times when you feel you're just not making headway. Believe in yourself and what you are trying to achieve and you will be successful.



