

Lesson Skill: Researching information

Strand Research

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7.9
8.9

Materials

- Internet access for each student
- Various resource books for research
- Copies of the four attached handouts

Lesson

1. Give each student two copies of the attached Research-Questions Card and one copy of the Research-Planning Card—The 5 Ws & H. Have students write their research topic from the previous lesson on each card. Then have them generate four questions for which they would like to find answers through their research.
2. Have students research their topic, using various resource books and the Internet, in order to answer their questions and to fill in data on the Planning Card. Make sure they stay focused only on their topic and write complete notes on their cards. Have them ask questions to develop a purpose for researching their topic.
3. Have students use their notes on the three cards to write a report on their topic.
4. Distribute copies of the Sources for Research worksheet. Allow students to work in groups of two or three to develop a hypothesis regarding the contents of each source listed and to write their predictions.
5. Let students work 5 to 10 minutes before asking them what kinds of information would be found in each source. Discuss each source. Ask whether any information on their research topic could be found in these sources.
6. For each source on the handout, have students develop a complete list of information that could be used and cited in a research product.

Research-Questions Card

TOPIC: _____

In the spaces below, write two questions for which you would like to find answers through your research on your topic.

On the back of this card, answer your questions by writing key words, other notes, and your source information (if you are quoting from the text). Use this information to write your report.

QUESTION 1:

QUESTION 2:

Research-Questions Card

TOPIC: _____

In the spaces below, write two questions for which you would like to find answers through your research on your topic.

On the back of this card, answer your questions by writing key words, other notes, and your source information (if you are quoting from the text). Use this information to write your report.

QUESTION 1:

QUESTION 2:

Research-Planning Card—The 5 Ws & H

TOPIC: _____

In the spaces below, fill in information about your topic. Use these notes to write your report.

WHO:

WHAT:

WHERE:

WHEN:

WHY:

HOW:

Research-Planning Card—The 5 Ws & H

TOPIC: _____

In the spaces below, fill in information about your topic. Use these notes to write your report.

WHO:

WHAT:

WHERE:

WHEN:

WHY:

HOW:

Sources for Research

With your group, develop a hypothesis regarding the contents of each source listed below. Write your predictions about the *kinds* of information each source provides. List two or three types of information under each source.

1. *Encarta* Web site

2. Newspapers

3. Magazines

4. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* by Joseph Gibaldi

5. *Technical Editing: The Practical Guide for Editors and Writers* by Judith A. Tarutz

6. *Longman Companion to Twentieth Century Literature* by A. C. Ward

7. *Indexes and Indexing: A Guide to the Indexing of Books and Collections of Books, Periodicals, Music, Recordings, Films and Other Materials* by Robert L. Collison

8. *American Authors from the Puritans to the Present Day*

9. *A Handbook to Literature* by William Harmon
