

Strategic Searching

Together with the librarian, Ashley Crane, work through the following.

1. Using the sample research topic below, highlight or circle the most important words or phrases.

The effect of culture and location on first grade students' cognitive representation of number and understanding of place value.

2. Fill in the expression below using the identified keywords.

_____ + _____ + _____

3. Write the expression again as a search string, using the appropriate Boolean Operator (AND, OR, NOT)

This is your search string at its most basic level. It is useable in any database.

4. Consider what other parameters should be set to return the most relevant results. List them below.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

5. Fill in the blank.

Searching is _____ exploration.

6. What else should be considered to search effectively?

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Use the following to help guide your group develop a Literature Review Plan. Bring one completed worksheet per group to class on September 11th, for librarian review.

1. Highlight or circle the most important words or phrases in your Research Topic and Questions.
2. Write your basic search string below.

3. Consider what other parameters should be set to return the most relevant results. List them here.

4. Identify what databases or search tools you plan to use.

a. _____ via _____

b. _____ via _____

c. _____ via _____

5. Try your search strategy (basic search string + additional parameters) in at least one database or search tool. Use the space below to reflect on how it went. Be sure to include any difficulties you encounter and questions you have.