

Writing and Research Models...

IIM Independent Investigation Method

Step 1 - Topic

- * assignment of topic
- * web ideas about assignment

Step 2 - Goal Setting

- * set goals for notefacts, resources, key words
- * develop questions to guide research

Step 3 - Research

- * gather and record information using notefacts

Step 4 - Organizing

- * organize notefacts by categories

Step 6 - Product

- * demonstrate new knowledge by completing activity

Step 7 - Presentation

- * present product to appropriate audience

Big6™ Skills

1. Task Definition

- 1.1 Define the information problem
- 1.2 Identify information needed in order to complete the task/solve the problem

2. Information Seeking Strategies

- 2.1 Determine the range of possible sources (brainstorm)
- 2.2 Evaluate the different possible sources to determine priorities (select the best sources)

3. Location and Access

- 3.1 Locate sources (physically and intellectually)
- 3.2 Find information within sources

4. Use of Information

- 4.1 Engage (e.g., read, hear, view, touch) the information in a source
- 4.2 Extract relevant information from a source

5. Synthesis

- 5.1 Organize information from multiple sources
- 5.2 Present the information

6. Evaluation

- 6.1 Judge the product
- 6.2 Judge the information problem-solving process

Step Up to Writing

Go!

Write a topic sentence.

Slow Down!

Give a reason, detail, or fact. Use a transition.

Stop!

Explain. Give an example.

Go Back!

Remind the reader of your topic.

Big6™ Process Model

1. Task Definition

- 1.1 Define the information problem
- 1.2 Identify information needed in order to complete the task/solve the problem

- ◆ Think through the problem to generate ideas and develop essential questions.
- ◆ What information do you need to collect and process to answer the particular information need or research question?

2. Information Seeking Strategies

- 2.1 Determine the range of possible sources (brainstorm)
- 2.2 Evaluate the different possible sources to determine priorities (select the best sources)

- ◆ Consider books, reference books (almanacs, atlases, encyclopedias, dictionaries), magazines, journals, newspapers, electronic databases, Internet sites & directories, selected search engines, blogs, videos, social networking, wikis, subject experts, librarians & libraries

- ◆ Which is the best source(s) for this particular need? Is this source available to me?
- ◆ Which sources would be most reliable? most efficient? most thorough? provide graphics? provide accurate statistics?....

3. Location and Access

- 3.1 Locate sources (physically and intellectually)
- 3.2 Find information within sources

- ◆ Where can I find/access the source? (physical location)
- ◆ What search words, phrases or advanced search terms should I use?
- ◆ What else do I need to know to find and use the information resources? (call numbers, Dewey system, passwords for databases)

- ◆ Use the source's organizational structure to find information (e.g. index or index volume, table of contents, glossary, heading, caption, abstract, menu, data fields, hypertext, subject headings, drop-down boxes, search fields, advanced search fields, Boolean operators)
- ◆ Use skimming and scanning techniques to find specific information

4. Use of Information

- 4.1 Engage (e.g., read, hear, view, touch) the information in a source
- 4.2 Extract relevant information from a source

- ◆ Read the information (or listen, touch, view or examine)
- ◆ Think about the information as you engage it. Does it answer the research question(s)? What new question(s) does it bring to mind?
- ◆ Evaluate the sources for authority, currency, accuracy

- ◆ Take notes on the *relevant* information. (Know citation rules to avoid plagiarism.)
- ◆ Record the sources (know which details you need for the Works Cited page)

5. Synthesis

- 5.1 Organize information from multiple sources
- 5.2 Present the information

- ◆ You may want to use a graphic organizer to sort and prioritize the information
- ◆ What is the most effect tool or medium to use to communicate the information?
- ◆ What text/graphics/design best communicates the information?

6. Evaluation

- 6.1 Judge the product
- 6.2 Judge the information problem-solving process

- ◆ Review and consider the final results. Proofread!
- ◆ What did you learn about the research process? What would you do next time?