

CS 20: Research Paper Background Research

Do Background Research

It's important to learn what similar articles and papers already exist about your topic before you begin to write your paper. Pick one of your ideas and begin to research it. Read this article on [Choosing a Strong Research Topic](#) to help you decide which topics to pursue.

Start by creating a list of questions that you want to answer and then research the answers. How to Develop a Good Research Question:

<https://cirt.gcu.edu/research/developmentresources/tutorials/question>

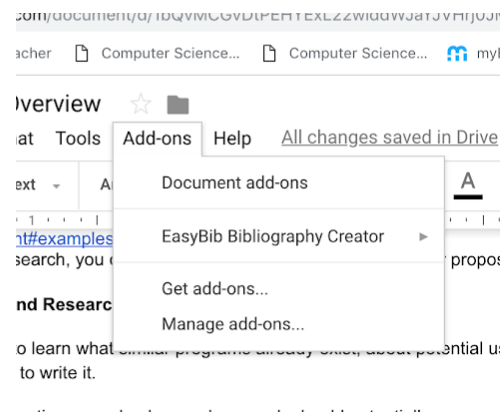
You will need at least 3 sources of information. You may need more sources later, but right now you need proof that there is enough information about the topic to proceed. For more information to evaluate if a source is good:

<https://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/science-fair/finding-information-for-your-research-paper>

After you have concluded that the topic has sufficient information for you to research, write a thesis statement. Check out these writing tips for writing a thesis statement:

<http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/writers/tips/thesis/>

Put your thesis statement, research questions and answers in a Background Research Google Doc. To cite your sources, use EasyBib Bibliography Creator found in the Add-on menu of Google Docs (picture on following page).



Background Research Checklist (6 marks)

- ☐ List of questions to research
- ☐ Answers to the questions
- ☐ At least 3 sources of information
- ☐ Sources are of good quality
- ☐ Thesis statement
- ☐ Bibliography

Works Cited

"Finding Information for Your Research Paper." *Science Buddies*,

www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/science-fair/finding-information-for-your-research-paper.