The BIG 6™

Research Process for Students

Step 1: Define *(Task Definition)*
1.1 Define the information problem
1.2 Identify information needed

How can I earn full points? What information do I need to find?
Which questions do I need to answer?

Step 2: Plan *(Information Seeking Strategies)*
2.1 Determine all possible sources *(databases, podcasts, books, videos…)*
2.2 Select the best sources

Which digital and print resources do I have access to? ([121Library](#))
Can I interview any experts on the subject?

Step 3: Find *(Location and Access)*
3.1 Locate sources (intellectually and physically)
3.2 Find information within sources

Collect, retrieve, and evaluate resources. ([COR](#), [SIFT](#))
Compare sources to confirm reliability. (Lateral Reading: [Read](#) | [Watch](#))

Step 4: Create *(Use of Information)*
4.1 Engage (e.g., read, hear, view, touch)
4.2 Extract relevant information

Highlight relevant information from each source. Cite each source.
([Note Taking Guide](#) [ZoteroBib](#) [OSLIS Citation Maker](#))

Step 5: Present *(Synthesis)*
5.1 Organize from multiple sources
5.2 Present the information

Organize your information (create an outline, design [Canva](#) slides…)
Compose, revise, practice, enhance and share your presentation!

Step 6: Reflect *(Evaluation)*
6.1 Judge the product (effectiveness)
6.2 Judge the process (efficiency)

Which tools and strategies worked well?
What will you do differently next time?