

Big 6 Research Strategy



1. Define the Task

What is my assignment?

(what am I supposed to learn, find answers to, or construct?)

2. Seek Information

What kind of resource has the type of information I need?

(online database, Internet, book, atlas, encyclopedia, interview, video, audiocast)

3. Locate & Access information

After I choose my resource how do I locate it?

(use an internet search engine or library catalog or North Library website ?)

How do I find the information in my resource?

(do keyword search, use the index, table of contents, or other?)

4. Use the information

Is the information I found credible, current, accurate, unbiased and clear?

(look for dates, authorship, facts to check, bold opinions, organization, layout)

How do I get the information into my brain?

(skim, scan, view, listen?)

How do I use the information without plagiarizing or violating copyright?

(outline, summarize, take notes, cite sources)

5. Organize my research

How should I organize my information?

(outline, index cards, table, list, chart, diagram?)

How should I present my organized information?

(essay, paper, speech, video, slide show, poster, spreadsheet, 3-D artifact?)

6. Evaluate the process

Did I miss any steps? Have I done my best work?

(proofread, re-check requirements, get a second opinion)

What could I do next time to improve my grade?

(use other resources, take better notes, present it differently...)

