

QUICK GUIDE TO *Researching*



1

Types of information gathered while researching:

- Important statistics
- Technical information
- Background information
- The opinion/view of an expert or authority, or an explanation from an expert/authority

2

Academic search engine

Googlescholar.com.

Library

Internet search.

Websites that end in .edu or .gov are more likely to be good sources than .com, .net and .org .

3

The best sources are peer reviewed.

Consider where the information is coming from.

A source should not have an agenda or bias.

4

Online Resources Tips:

Approach online sources with special care.

Web sources can be deceptive.

4

Questions to consider:

- Is there an author? You may need to do some clicking and scrolling to find the author's name. Check the home page or an "about this site" link.
- Can you tell whether an author is knowledgeable and credible? Look for a home page that may provide evidence of an author's experience.
- Who, if anyone, sponsors the site? The sponsor of the site is often named and described on the home page.
- Why was the site created? To argue a position? To sell a product? To inform the readers?
- Who is the site's intended audience?
- How current is the site? Check for the date of publication on the latest update. Sites will often say "last updated on..."