

Assignment 2 Broaden Then Narrow Your Topic

You will do a quick Internet search to expand your ideas.
You will then sort through your options to narrow your research focus.

Follow these tips!

- *Explore Your Topic:* Use the Explore tool to get ideas.
- *Gain Knowledge:* Use Wikipedia to learn a bit about the topic.
- *Build Word List:* Show what you know. Make a list of terms about your topic.
- *Narrow Your Focus:* Think about what you want to learn. Ask questions.

Ask your teacher what general topic you are to study.
If you get to pick, then choose a topic that interests you.

What is your broad topic area? This is your starting point!

Open Google Docs and Create a New Document

- ▷ Sign in to Google Drive. Use the Chrome web browser.
- ▷ Click New. From the list, select Google Docs.

Use the Explore Tool to Investigate Your Topic

The Explore tool in Google Docs is for finding images. You can also see related images and insert them into your document. You can also use it to explore your options.

- ▷ Type your **Topic Name**. Press ENTER.
Select a word or phrase.
- ▷ Click Explore  or from the Tools menu, click Explore.



You will see suggested topics, images, and websites.

- ▷ Do NOT read everything. Just *skim* and *scan* it quickly.
 - Look quickly through the pictures.
 - Read the website titles.
 - Read a description that interests you.

Look for things that interest you.
Look for keywords you can use.

- ▷ **Be curious!** In the Explore pane, modify the search term by adding more words or type in a new search word.

Use Wikipedia to Gain a Bit of Knowledge

Wikipedia is a free encyclopedia that has articles written by ordinary people. Anyone can edit an article. For these reasons, it is not a good idea to use Wikipedia as your only source of information. However, it is a great place to start a research project.

How should you use Wikipedia?

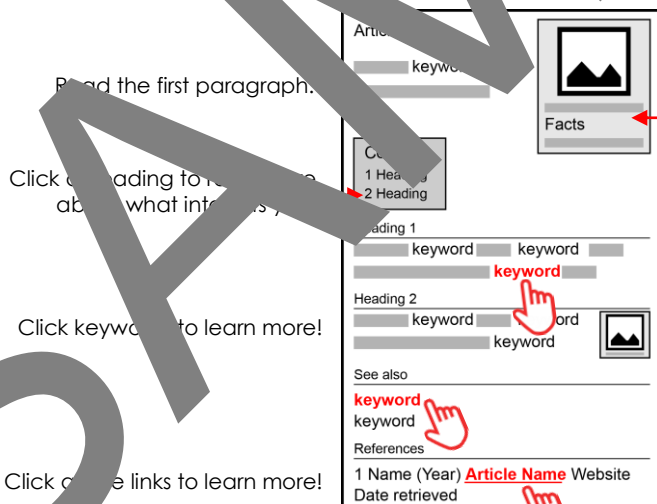
- learn a bit about a topic quickly
- view information that relates to your topic to get more ideas
- connect with other websites related to the topic

- ▷ Look through the Explore results about your topic.
Find the **Wikipedia** article. You may need to click **More**.

Look for the source of the web pages. The Wikipedia article may be the first one.



- ▷ Click the description to open the web page in a new browser tab.
- ▷ **Save time!** Do NOT read everything.
- Read the first few sentences of the paragraph.
 - Read the list of facts below the picture on the right.
 - Look for a keyword in the list. Click on a heading that interests you. Read that!



Grow what you know!
This will help you to discover what you want to learn.




- ▷ **Get ideas!** Wikipedia can help you expand your ideas. Click around!
- Click on keywords highlighted in text.
 - Click on keywords in the *See also* section.
 - Click on references at the bottom of the article.
 - Click on external links at the bottom of the article.

Build a Word List

Based on your Internet search, you are going to make a list of words related to your topic. This is a great way to discover what you already know about a topic. You will use this list to narrow your research focus.

- ▷ Close the web browser tab with the Wikipedia article (X). The Google Docs file should still be open.
- ▷ Below the *Topic Name* make a list of words related to your topic. Press ENTER after each word.


Topic Name word word word word	 <p>Jot down as many words as you can.</p>	What can you use the list for? <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ synonyms for a different word used for topic✓ objects related to topic✓ places related to topic✓ people related to topic
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Narrow Your Focus



You are going to make a *Fun Fact Card* for kids. The card will be one sheet of paper. This means you won't be able to put EVERYTHING onto the card. You must narrow your topic.

- ▷ Look over your list. You need to pick a topic for your fact card. Ask yourself:
 - What will be most interesting?
 - What do I want to know more about?
- ▷ Pick ONE idea from your list. Below the list of words, write in a **NEW Topic Name**.
- ▷ Below the **NEW Topic Name** make a list of questions you have about the topic. Press ENTER after each one.

NEW Topic Name who what where when why how	 <p>You will make a research plan in the next assignment. Which questions interest you the most?</p>
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Rename the Document and Then Sign Out of Google Drive

- ▷ Click in the *Untitled Document* box to rename the document.
- ▷ Sign out of Google Drive.