THE BIG 6 RESEARCH TUTORIAL
Teaching Technology and Information Literacy Skills
In the 21st Century

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING TUTORIAL

- Read the directions.
- Follow the directions carefully for each section.
- To go to the next screen, use the mouse to click on the arrow below.
- Click on any hyperlinks available on a screen.
WHAT IS THE BIG SIX?

- The Big Six is an information problem-solving process for conducting research.
- The Big Six was created by M.B. Eisenberg and R.E. Berkowitz.
- It is comprised of a set of six skills:

  1. Task Definition
  2. Information Seeking Strategies
  3. Location and Access
  4. Use of Information
  5. Synthesis
  6. Evaluation
DEFINE THE BIG SIX SKILLS

1. Task Definition - What Do I Need to Do?
2. Information Seeking Strategies - What Can I Use to Find What I Need?
3. Location and Access - Where Can I Find What I Need?
4. Use of Information - What Information Can I Use?
5. Synthesis - How Can I Put My Information Together?
6. Evaluation - How Will I know If I Did Well?
EXAMPLES OF THE BIG SIX SKILLS

- Task Definition
  - Define the task
  - Identify the information needed to do the task.

  This Ultimate Cheatsheet for Critical Thinking by Global Digital Citizen will assist you in defining your task.

- Information Seeking Strategies
  - Brainstorm all possible sources.

    Click here for brainstorming techniques.

  - Learn effective search strategies on the Internet with Google’s Power Searching Course. It’s free!

  - Select the best sources.
BRAINSTORMING TECHNIQUES

- Learn the various brainstorming techniques by visiting these informative websites:
  - https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/brainstorming/
  - http://www.virtualsalt.com/crebook2.htm
EXAMPLES OF THE BIG SIX SKILLS

Location and Access

✓ Locate Sources
  
  [Click here](#) to learn [how to locate sources](#).

✓ Find information within sources

Use of Information

✓ Engage (read, hear, view, or touch)
✓ Take out the needed information
✓ Knowing how to take effective notes is an important part of this skill.

[Click here](#) to learn [how to take notes](#).
The school library media center is an excellent place to locating sources.

**Books** - Destiny Library Database
- [https://destiny.rvaschools.net](https://destiny.rvaschools.net) → Franklin Military Academy → Catalog

**eBooks** - Destiny Library Database
- [https://destiny.rvaschools.net](https://destiny.rvaschools.net) → Franklin Military Academy → Destiny Discover

**Library Media Services**
Online databases and encyclopedias have a wealth of information → See your library media specialist for a handout of available resources.
- [https://rvaschools.net/fma](https://rvaschools.net/fma) → Academics → Media Center → Useful Links → LMS Online Resources
HOW TO TAKE EFFECTIVE NOTES

- Click on the following websites on how to take effective notes:
  - https://sites.google.com/site/notetakingandstudyskills/note-taking-methods/charting-method
EXAMPLES OF THE BIG SIX SKILLS

Use of Information (con’t)

✓ Another example of taking out needed information is knowing how to **summarize** what is read. This is an important skill for extracting information. Summarizing helps the reader to focus on looking for key points and ideas when reading.  Click here to learn how to summarize information.
HOW TO SUMMARIZE INFORMATION

- Click on the following websites to learn how to **summarize** information.
- [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/563/1/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/563/1/)
- [http://www.readingrockets.org/content/pdfs/closure_frame.pdf](http://www.readingrockets.org/content/pdfs/closure_frame.pdf)
EXAMPLES OF THE BIG SIX SKILLS CON’T

- **Synthesis**
  - Organize information from all sources
    Formatting an outline is an effective way of organizing your work. [Click here](#) on how to write an outline.
  - Create product or performance
    Knowing how to write an essay is a key component of Synthesis. [Click here](#) on how to write a basic essay.

- **Evaluation**
  - Judge the product or performance
  - Judge the process (efficiency)
    [Click here](#) on using grading rubrics
HOW TO WRITE AN OUTLINE

- The following websites provide insightful information on how to format outlines:
  - http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/writingcenter/writingprocess/outlining
The following websites provide a detailed guide to writing a basic essay:

- http://members.tripod.com/~lklivingston/essay/

Next, examine some of the essential elements of writing like how to write a thesis statement, how to write effective sentences and paragraphs, how to avoid plagiarism and how to document sources. Click here to proceed.
The important elements of writing an essay include:

- A Thesis Statement
  - [Source 1](http://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/thesis-statements/)
  - [Source 2](https://leo.stcloudstate.edu/acadwrite/thesisstatement.html)

- Effective Sentences and Paragraphs
  - [Source 3](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/paragraphs.shtml)
  - [Source 4](http://virginialynne.hubpages.com/hub/Writing-Effective-Sentences)
  - [Source 5](http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb/paragrph.html)
Other critical elements of essay writing include avoiding plagiarism and properly documenting your sources.

- Click here to learn how to avoid plagiarism
- Click here to learn how to document your sources using either MLA or APA styles
AVOID PLAGIARISM

- Plagiarism may be avoided if you know what to look out for when you are writing.
- The following websites provide valuable information on plagiarism and how to avoid it. Don’t be a victim of plagiarism!
  - https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/
  - https://www.brainpop.com/english/writing/plagiarism/
Document your sources gives your work credibility and integrity.

The following website shows you when to use MLA or APA styles and how to cite your sources:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/writingcenter/upload/MLA%20In%20Text%20Citation%20of%20Poetry%20and%20Drama.pdf
USE RUBRICS TO HELP YOU EVALUATE YOUR WORK

- http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/criteria.pdf
REVIEW THE BIG SIX SKILLS

- Go to the following websites to review the Big Six Skills and access additional resources to help you master the Big Six Skills:
  - http://www.big6.com/category/big6-resources/
  - http://nb.wsd.wednet.edu/big6/big6_resources.htm
  - http://www.crlsresearchguide.org/Big_Six_Steps.asp
In the next section, complete the **multiple choice practice exercise** by choosing the correct answer to each question. *Click here to begin.*
Directions: Choose the correct answer by clicking on the correct response.

1. In Big Six skill *Task Definition*, you
   a. evaluate the different possible sources to determine priorities.
   b. define the information problem
   c. find information within sources

2. The purpose of Big Six skill *Location and Access* is to
   a. locate sources
   b. present the information
   c. judge the product
3. In Big Six skill *Information Seeking Strategies*, you
   a. identify information needed
   b. judge the information problem-solving process
   c. determine the range of possible sources

4. Extracting relevant information from a source is an example of Big Six skill
   a. Synthesis
   b. Use of Information
   c. Evaluation

5. Judging the product is an example of
   a. Task Definition
   b. Location and Access
   c. Evaluation

6. Organizing information from multiple sources is representative of Big Six skill
   a. Synthesis
   b. Use of Information
   c. Information Seeking Strategies
In the following Big 6 Web Quest, you will use your research skills to complete three major tasks.

These tasks will allow you to practice your research skills.

These tasks will take some time to complete. However, doing so will greatly sharpen your research skills and you will produce rewarding work to show for your efforts.

Click here to begin the Big 6 Webquest

HAVE FUN!
CORRECT ANSWER!
CORRECT ANSWER!

You Are the Best!
SORRY! INCORRECT ANSWER!

TRY AGAIN.
I DO NOT WANT TO MAKE YOU FEEL BAD.

But, You Are Incorrect.
Try Again.
I hope that you have found this tutorial to be useful.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.