Ontario Extend – Teacher for Learning Module  
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August 19, 2020  
Motivation Activity

Conducting effective research can be likened to driving a car. Going through the process from establishing your research question/topic, to selecting what resources to include in your assignment based on certain criteria, can become second-nature after you have some experience. Some students tend to think that it is a quick process, plug something into Google and what they need will pop out. Careful, critical research takes a bit more time. It isn’t something easily done the night before an assignment is due. Learning the component skills of this process do help students to master this and can also make them faster, better researchers.

Component skills in the research process:

* A basic understanding of the information need (answering a question for an assignment, conducting research to support a capstone project, etc.)
* Defining their research topic or question
* Selecting appropriate keywords based on their research topic or question
* Technical aspects of searching the Library resources including limiters, Boolean operators, phrase searching, etc.
* Evaluating a chosen resource for credibility and relevance
* Properly crediting the author of said resource by properly citing and referencing