

My research strategy
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1	Write down your research question. Underline 2 or 3 concepts that are essential to the question.	Example: What is <u>child slavery</u> and how does it violate children's <u>rights</u> ?				
2	Write each concept in its own box.	Child	AND	Slavery	AND	Rights
3	Use these columns to list synonyms (other words that have a similar meaning) for each concept.	Child* (the star or asterisk adds multiple endings so you will get search results related to child, childhood, or children) _____ OR _____ OR _____		"forced labour" (the quotation marks means the search engine will treat these words as a phrase) _____ OR _____ OR _____		entitlement _____ OR _____ OR _____
4	Construct a search "statement" using Boolean operators (and, or) , truncation (*) and parentheses (i.e., brackets). Use this search statement in steps 5 and 6. Example: (women or female*) AND (employ* or work*) and (canad* or ontario)					
<hr/> <p>Once you try your search you may find that you need to change it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too many hits? Add another concept with AND (Example: AND Canad*) • Too few records? Add another, similar search term with OR (Example: (rights or claims or protection) • Use a truncation symbol (*) to search for various forms of a word. Example: Canad* will bring back hits with Canada, Canadian or Canadians <p>Modified search: _____</p>						

5	<p>Need books or government documents? Search the library catalogue.</p> <p>Titles/Location/Call number:</p> <p>1. _____ Is the book available? Y or N</p> <p>2. _____ Is the book available? Y or N</p>
6	<p>Need journal articles? Search the appropriate databases, listed in the subject guide for your discipline under “journal articles. Go to the library’s home page(www.library.carleton.ca) and click on “subject guides” and then use the alphabetic listing to find your discipline.</p> <p>Which databases are most relevant to your topic/question? List the names:</p> <p>1. _____ 2. _____</p>
7	<p>Find relevant articles and list all the necessary information below (author, title, journal title, year, volume/issue, page numbers):</p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>3. _____</p>

Remember:

Boolean operators = and, or (e.g., cats and dogs cats or dogs)

Truncation = * the asterisk (or star) replaces different endings for words (e.g., Canad* will bring you hits with Canada, Canadian or Canadians)

Parentheses = () putting words in brackets keeps similar terms together

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