

Introduction to Research — Choosing a Topic

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child selects a topic of personal interest and begins learning how to research by gathering facts from books and simple reference materials. This lesson introduces the research process that will be central to elementary education.

What You Need:

- 4-5 age-appropriate reference books on different topics
- Index cards (fact cards)
- Pencil
- Topic choice cards with pictures
- Basket or tray

Steps:

1. 'In school, when you want to learn about something, you do RESEARCH. That means finding facts and information about a topic.'
2. Present 4-5 topic options (animals, planets, weather; plants, ocean) with related books available.
3. The child chooses one topic.
4. 'Let's find THREE FACTS about your topic.' Open a reference book together.
5. Read a short section. 'What is one fact you learned?' Write it on a fact card.
6. Continue until the child has 3 fact cards.
7. 'You just did research! Researchers find facts and write them down.'

Work Space:

A large, dashed rectangular box occupies the bottom half of the page, intended for the child to draw or write their work space.

Montessori Homeschool • Print on US Letter (8.5 x 11") • Activity sheet — print on standard paper