Educator Information and Directions

Student Objectives
1. Evaluate phrases to determine best keyword search practices
2. Assess the credibility of online sources
3. Gather research to build and present knowledge

DAY 1
- ❏ Watch the **Video Lesson** and complete your **Guided Notes.**
- ❏ Complete the **Keen Keywords Activity.**
- ❏ Complete the **Online Practice 1.**

DAY 2
- ❏ Complete the **Warm Up.**
- ❏ Complete the **Source Sleuth Activity.**
- ❏ Complete **Online Practice 2.**

DAY 3
- ❏ Complete the **Researcher Roundup!** Activity.
- ❏ Complete the **Online Assessment.**

Suggested Reward

Use your account to reward 100 Gold/$coops for each worksheet completed in this packet.

Extension Activities

Family Fact Check: Turn a dinner table into a fact checking session! Each family member shares an interesting fact they've recently learned, and the student, acting as a fact-checker, uses keyword and source evaluation skills to verify the accuracy of the information online with an adult.

My Topic Talk Show: Become the host of your own talk show where the guest is a famous person of your choice! With an adult, research your guest and prepare interview questions by using reliable sources. Perform or record your talk show interview! Don't forget the live audience!

Source Scavenger Hunt: Create clues that hint at the meaning of keywords relating to a topic of your choice. Have a friend or family member attempt to solve the clues and figure out your topic!

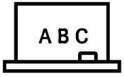 Complete While Watching Video

 Example

 Student Practice

 Write It Out!
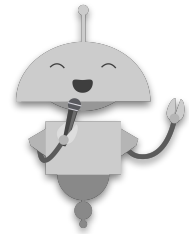
Day 1

Guided Notes

Guided Notes: While you are watching the video, fill in the information below for your notes.

(Circle) the best keywords to search in the research question below:

What causes lightning formation during a storm?

To find the most effective keywords, you want to pinpoint the key elements of your topic by focusing on the _____ or _____, the action, and the when or where if applicable.

DIRECTIONS: Pause the video to (circle) the best keywords to search in the research question below.

What is the effect of global warming on polar bear populations?

REMEMBER:
Always have an adult with you during online research for support and security.

Guided Notes (cont.)

Guided Notes: While you are watching the video, fill in the information below for your notes.

Website domain - found in the website _____

Educational Institutions	Governmental Agencies	Non-profit Organizations
Typically use the ._____ domain	Typically use the ._____ domain	Typically use the ._____ domain

Beware of websites that...

- Don't provide _____ about the author or sources

- Are full of _____ and pop-ups

- Have _____ or incorrect information

- Present _____ as facts without evidence

- Have content that seems too _____, or exaggerated
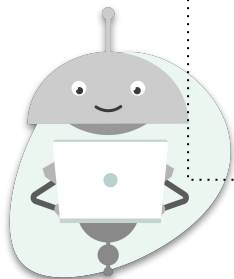
As always, having an adult as your fellow stormcaster on this journey is essential.

Researching Your Topic

Guided Notes (cont.)

DIRECTIONS: Pause the video to put a star ⭐ by which source is more reliable. Then, explain your thinking on the lines below.

1.

2.

I know this because... _____

_____

_____

Common Questions	Answers
When do I know if I've collected enough data for my essay?	You know you have enough research to start your essay when you have a clear understanding of your topic and feel confident you can explain it in your own words.
Can I return to my research even after I've started planning or writing?	If you find a part of your essay where you're not as clear or detailed as you'd like to be, that's a signal that you might need to do a bit more research to strengthen that section.

Researching Your Topic

Keyword Kickoff Activity

DIRECTIONS: Below are several research topics related to weather phenomena. For each topic, write down three effective keywords that you think would help you find more information about the topic online.

1. How do tornadoes form and how strong can they get?

Keywords: _____

2. What is the impact of hurricanes on coastal ecosystems?

Keywords: _____

3. How are clouds formed, and what are the different types?

Keywords: _____

4. How are weather forecasts made?

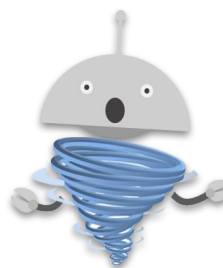Keywords: _____

5. How does wind form and shape weather patterns?

Keywords: _____

6. What is El Niño, and how does it affect South America?

Keywords: _____

Remember:
Focus on the who or what
of the research question

Researching Your Topic

Day 2

Warm Up Activity: Source Sort

DIRECTIONS: Below are several types of online sources. Draw a line to connect each type of source with the description that best fits it.

.gov website

Personal blog

Social media post

Online encyclopedia

.edu website

.org website

A. A website maintained by an educational institution, usually a college or university

B. A website typically run by a government organization, offering data and facts about various topics

C. A website or app where individuals share personal thoughts, experiences, and opinions with a broad audience

D. A personal website where someone shares their personal opinions and experiences

E. A comprehensive source of information on a wide range of topics, written by numerous contributors

F. A website owned by an organization, usually a nonprofit group

Write It Out!

From the above list, which sources are considered the most reliable?

_____

Which sources are considered less reliable?

_____

Researching Your Topic

Source Sleuth Activity

1. Reliable or Unreliable: A government website (.gov) providing data on global temperatures

   This source is reliable because it has a .gov website domain and it provides facts.
   _____

2. Reliable or Unreliable: An online forum where people post and chat about their opinions on hurricanes

   _____

   _____

3. Reliable or Unreliable: An academic paper (.edu) discussing the impact of wind on weather patterns

   _____

   _____

4. Reliable or Unreliable: A social media post predicting an upcoming blizzard, which was posted by an individual with no meteorology background

   _____

   _____

5. Reliable or Unreliable: An article explaining the water cycle on a .org website dedicated to environmental awareness and education.

   _____

   _____

Day 3

Researcher Roundup! Activity

DIRECTIONS: With a trusted adult, use the template below to begin researching the topic for your expository essay. Remember, you may not need to use every graphic organizer in this activity.

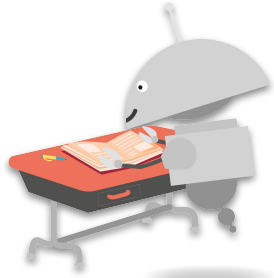| Source #1	
Keywords Searched	
Website Domain	
Title and/or Author	
How Do I Know This Website Is Reliable?	
Information to Include in Your Essay	❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Remember:
All online research should be conducted with an adult!

Researcher Roundup! Activity (cont.)

DIRECTIONS: With a trusted adult, use the template below to begin researching the topic for your expository essay.

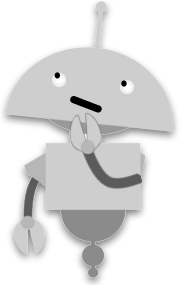| Source #2	
Keywords Searched	
Website Domain	
Title and/or Author	
How Do I Know This Website Is Reliable?	
Information To Include in Your Essay	❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Expert Help
Library scientists can help you with your search, whether finding physical copies of resources, ordering things from other libraries, or helping you with reliable internet searches

Researching Your Topic

Researcher Roundup! Activity (cont.)

DIRECTIONS: With a trusted adult, use the template below to begin researching the topic for your expository essay.

Source #3	
Keywords Searched	
Website Domain	
Title and/or Author	
How Do I Know This Website Is Reliable?	
Information To Include in Your Essay	❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Helpful Hint:
Always check to see when a website or article was published. Data that is more recent is usually more accurate!