

Edmonds Research Process

**At the beginning of 4th grade: Teacher helps students follow the steps.
By the end of 6th grade: Students follow the steps independently.**

1. Define the research questions
 - ❖ Select topic
 - ❖ Explore general resources for an overview of topic
 - ❖ Generate questions related to the topic
 - ❖ Use questions to formulate a central question (grade 6)
 - ❖ Choose a question to research (grade 4) / Focus research on the central question (grade 6)
2. Prepare for search
 - ❖ Use the central question to brainstorm a list of words, etc. that can be used in the search
 - ❖ Develop at least 3 specific keywords (grade 4) / search questions (grade 6) related to the thesis
3. Locate information sources and search for relevant information
 - ❖ Use key words to locate several types of resources in the library
 - ❖ Search tables of contents and index for useful information using key words (grade 4) / related ideas (grade 6)
 - ❖ Record bibliographic information
4. Interpret, evaluate and record information (take notes)
 - ❖ Recognize relevant facts and ideas in resources (grade 4) / Identify facts and ideas relevant to the central question; distinguish facts from opinion (grade 6)
 - ❖ Gain information from illustrations (grade 4) / Interpret visuals and written information (grade 6)
 - ❖ Summarize (grade 4) / Paraphrase (grade 6) information
 - ❖ Make inferences from information (grade 6)
 - ❖ Record information in an organized manner
 - ❖ Credit sources for direct quotations and photocopied materials (grade 6)
5. Construct meaning by synthesizing and organizing information (Prepare the report)
 - ❖ Sort information and plan sequence of presenting
 - ❖ Organize information into simple outline (grade 4) / logical format (grade 6)
 - ❖ Write text for paper or product using the writing process
 - ❖ Check that text synthesizes information and addresses the central question
 - ❖ Support conclusions with facts from research (grade 6)
 - ❖ Credit sources for direct quotations and photocopied materials (grade 6)
6. Apply findings and/or present information
 - ❖ Create a product that demonstrates an understanding of information (grade 4) / and responds to the central question or problem (grade 6)
 - ❖ Present the product to a meaningful audience
7. Evaluate process and product
 - ❖ Match the product to established criteria (grade 4) / Match own product against establish criteria (grade 6)
 - ❖ Answer questions from peers and teachers (grade 6)
8. Reflection
 - ❖ Explain the research process and product (grade 4)
 - ❖ Identify areas needing improvement in own work (grade 4)
 - ❖ Discuss the process and the results (grade 6)
 - ❖ Make suggestions for possible improvements (grade 6)