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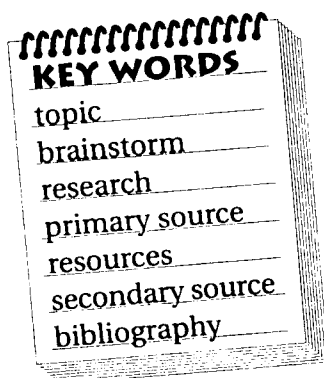
WRITING A RESEARCH PAPER

WHAT THIS EPISODE IS ABOUT

In this episode, students will learn a step-by-step process for writing a research paper. By the end of the lesson, students will be able to

-  identify the steps involved in writing a research paper
-  describe how to do research for the paper
-  apply the steps in the writing process to a research paper

VIDEO SUMMARY



Robin wants to write an interesting research paper, but she has trouble finding an appropriate topic. She'd like to write about the weather, but that topic is too broad.

After watching a weather bulletin on TV, Robin decides to write about tornadoes.

With help from her friends and her teacher, Robin follows a detailed but simple process for writing her paper. She researches her subject, interviews a TV meteorologist, organizes her ideas, and then writes and revises until she has a final draft.

BEFORE VIEWING THE VIDEO

Ask students what topics they would like to learn more about. Discuss how they could find information on those topics.

Tell students to watch for the steps in the writing process and to take notes as they watch Robin research, organize, write, and revise her research paper.

WHILE VIEWING THE VIDEO







1. After Robin and her two friends discuss choosing a topic in the school library, PAUSE the video. Ask students to brain-

storm their own topic ideas. List the topics on the board, and discuss whether each topic is specific enough for a short research paper.

2. After Robin sees the TV weather bulletin and decides to write her paper on tornadoes, PAUSE the video. Ask students what resources Robin could use to find more information about tornadoes.
3. After Robin talks to Mr. Moriarty about primary and secondary sources, PAUSE the video. Using the list of topics your students have generated, ask them to list primary sources for each topic.

AFTER VIEWING THE VIDEO

Summarize the episode by asking students to define the KEY WORDS listed on page 36. Then have students list the steps of the writing process:

-  choose a topic
-  brainstorm resources
-  do research
-  outline the paper
-  write first draft
-  revise to final draft

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Assign each student to research and write a two- or three-page research paper. Let each of them choose a topic.

Have students work in small groups. Each student must have his or her topic approved by the other members of the group. The topics must be specific and interesting to a general audience.

Each student's paper must list at least five different bibliographical sources used in researching the topic.

INTERNET RESOURCES

Researchpaper.com
<http://www.researchpaper.com/>



My Virtual Reference Desk
<http://www.refdesk.com/index.html>

Ask an Expert
<http://www.askanexpert.com/askanexpert/>

The Argus Clearinghouse
<http://www.clearinghouse.net>

Information Please
<http://www.infoplease.com/>

The Seven Steps of the Research Process
<http://www.library.cornell.edu/okuref/research/skill1.htm>