



## Digging into research Tips



### Brainstorm:

- ❖ Zero in on a topic which interests you. Does the topic you have chosen meet the criteria the teacher has discussed with the class?
- ❖ Check the library, internet and other sources to ensure that there is enough information on this topic. If there is not enough information you may need to change your topic.
- ❖ Create subtitles related to the main topic to help organize the gathering of information. What questions do you want answered? What questions does your teacher want answered?

### Gather Facts:

- ❖ Bring all materials you find outside of school for research days.
- ❖ Set up a notebook where you will record your research information. Your teacher may suggest a possible format.
- ❖ Set up pages in your research notebook with the subtitles you created to help keep your research information organized.
- ❖ Before you write down any information from any material you use in your research, you should record the source of information.
- ❖ Read your material in chunks and record the most important/useful information in point form.
- ❖ Continue to gather facts until you feel you have answered all the questions you had about your topic.

### Organize:

- ❖ Edit the information you have gathered, and eliminate anything which does not deal with your topic and purpose. Some information may need to be moved to other subtitles.
- ❖ Number your facts in the order that you would like to use them.
- ❖ Decide whether you will need to do further research to ensure you have enough clear information for each subtitle.
- ❖ Decide how you will organize the facts in the introduction, the body, and the conclusion. How many paragraphs will you need?

## Present:

- ❖ Now is the time to begin using your research information to write your first draft.
- ❖ You will need a concise, attention grabbing beginning paragraph.
- ❖ The body of your written work should reveal all the facts you would like to include.
- ❖ Include a closing that sums your work up.
- ❖ Did you consider the six traits of writing while writing your piece – ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions?
- ❖ Did you consider the purpose and the audience of this writing task?
- ❖ Did you consider that you will be presenting this information orally? Use words and sentences that would be best heard orally.

