



Workshop Title:

Research Skills in Project Based Learning

Learning Intentions:

- How to effectively use the internet to research.
- How to write a bibliography.

Summary of Learning:

- By having great internet research skills, students are able to pursue their own learning interests and be at the centre of their own learning.
- Students develop and refine their research questions from their NTK list.
- Always read the blurb or summary of a website before entering it to ensure that it is suitable and reliable.
- Only use websites that are reliable sources of information. To determine whether a website is reliable you need to know who created the website. This information is usually at the bottom of a website page.
- If a website is published by an educational organisation it is usually reliable (e.g. museums, art galleries, and commercial educational websites such as *National Geographic*). Government websites (these usually end with “.gov”) and publically funded media organisations such as the *ABC* and *BBC* also provide good resources. Websites published by individuals who are not affiliated with an educational institution (often as a hobby) are usually not reliable.
- Students need to vary their search terms in order to find the best websites for their needs. If the websites are too difficult to understand, for instance, try using search terms such as “for kids” next the key search term (e.g. “Ancient Greek gods for kids”).
- Any research that is used in a student’s writing needs to be referenced in a bibliography (see the bibliography handout on how to write a bibliography).