Lesson Topic: Gathering Effective Sources for a Research Project
Grade level: 7
Length of lesson: 1 hour

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<th>Stage 1 – Desired Results</th>
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<td><strong>Content Standard(s):</strong> content standard 7th grade: C Media Literacy - The student will critically analyze information found in electronic and print Media, and will use a variety of these sources to learn about a topic and represent ideas.</td>
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<th>Understanding (s)/goals</th>
<th>Essential Question(s):</th>
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<td>Students will understand: How to conduct effective research by finding sources and evaluating them for their usefulness.</td>
<td>• What’s the difference between a scholarly source and a non-scholarly source?</td>
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<td>• What characteristics make a source reliable?</td>
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<td>• How can I use skillful research outside the classroom?</td>
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<th>Student objectives (outcomes):</th>
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<td>Students will be able to: 1. Use a MLA handbook to cite sources correctly 2. Describe your individual research process 3. Be able to find background info or other sources that verify the information found in recent media: books, magazines, newspapers, TV show, movie, etc. 4. Students will be able to analyze sources for similarities and differences, and learn to recognize bias. They will be able to define “objective viewpoint.” 5. Students will be able to list a set of guidelines for their research process. 6. Write an annotated bibliography for the sources selected.</td>
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<th>Stage 2 – Assessment Evidence</th>
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<td><strong>Performance Task(s):</strong> 1. Find the sources that answer specific questions. 2. Cite these sources correctly 3. Turn in a worksheet with the answers to</td>
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| Other Evidence: 1. How well does the student a) use library and computer time b) recognize quality source material |

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<th>Stage 3 – Learning Plan</th>
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<td><strong>Learning Activities:</strong> Cite a Source Scavenger Hunt</td>
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<td><strong>1. Materials:</strong> One question sheet. 4-7 sets, with 6 different questions on each. For example: What is the population of the largest city in Argentina? Who wrote the introduction to the first Edition of <em>Huckleberry Finn</em>? Cite a source that comes from a country of your family’s ancestors. Who was the mayor of our town in 1973? Cite a newspaper with a quote from one community leader. Other materials: Library, MLA handbooks- enough for each group. Possibly a copy of just the works cited section would work too.</td>
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2. **Hook:** Research can be like an Easter egg hunt. Only, instead of candy you find real information that you can use to inform your paper. But research isn’t something that just happens in school. One day you may want to buy a car, or a house, or pick a college, and you’ll want to be able find various facts and background information in order to make the best decision. Besides that, research can be fun because you never know what you’ll stumble upon on your way to the information you’re seeking. How else can you use research? In a broad sense what is a source? (5 min.)

3. **Discuss: Various Sources:** How to use an MLA guide. Where to find the information needed to cite a source. Show examples: Magazine and Magazine citation. What is a source? overview: Journals, Books, Magazines, Newspapers, Internet, Etc. What is a scholarly source? (15 min.)

4. **Activity: Number off into pairs, distribute questionnaire.** Let students know that there is something specific that they’d rather look up in place of one of the questions, come to me for approval. (3 min.)

5. **Students, in groups, will find and cite the sources to the answers of all 6 questions:** Teacher will answer questions, offer help, explain, point out various resources, and research through the library and computer, in order to model the activity. Students will observe their own research, taking notes of what went wrong and what went well, follow research guidelines, ask questions, discuss with partners, delegate the questions amongst themselves, cite the sources correctly and bring the worksheet to me by the end of class. (30 min)

6. **Closing Activity:** Discuss what went well what went right? Who found something interesting? Will you share it with us? Anybody get sidetracked? What sources seemed helpful? How? Next, we’ll learn what an annotated bibliography is, and how to do one because that will be the next assignment,