

Pre-search and Mind Map Worksheet

Topic Idea

Your topic idea should be an issue or idea you want to investigate. Ideas can come from many places, consider what interests you, developing areas in your field, or current news and events.

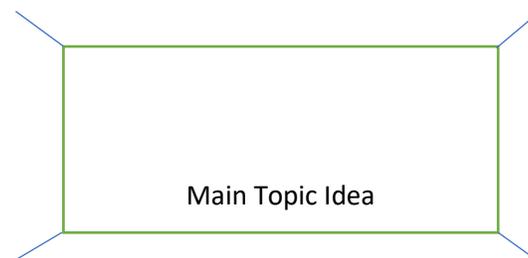
Pre-Search Your Big Idea

Gather background information about your topic.

1. Search your big idea online using Google, or another search engine (Yahoo, Duck Duck Go, others).
2. Look for INFORMATIVE sites, not businesses/sites trying to sell a product. These will be news organizations, online encyclopedias like Wikipedia, government organizations or non-profits.
3. Scan and browse these sites
4. Write down ideas, concepts, terms, people, organizations, groups, and places that you find in your search results and by scanning these websites. Pay attention to terms that get repeated.

Make a Mind Map

Organize terms into related groups



Write Final Topic

What on your mind map interests you the most? Combine terms from your mind map to create a topic sentence.