

Objective

By the end of this lesson, S will understand the basics of research paper writing, including how to choose a topic, conduct research, organize information, and format a paper. S will feel confident in starting their own research paper project.

Materials and Prep

- Notebook or loose-leaf paper
- Pens or pencils
- Access to a computer or tablet (for research)
- Internet connection
- Basic understanding of what a research paper is (to be discussed)

Activities

- **Brainstorming Session:** Start by brainstorming potential topics of interest. S can write down anything that sparks their curiosity. This will help them choose a topic they are passionate about.
- **Research Hunt:** S will spend time researching their chosen topic online. They should look for credible sources and take notes on important points. This will teach them how to gather information effectively.
- **Outline Creation:** After gathering information, S will create a rough outline for their paper. This will help them organize their thoughts and understand how to structure their writing.
- **Peer Review (with a friend or family member):** S can share their outline with someone else to get feedback. This will help them see different perspectives and improve their work.

Talking Points

- "A research paper is a way to explore a topic in depth and share what you learn with others."
- "Choosing a topic you care about makes the research process more enjoyable!"
- "Always look for credible sources, like academic journals or reputable websites."
- "Taking notes as you research helps you remember important details."
- "An outline is like a roadmap for your paper; it keeps you on track."
- "Don't be afraid to ask for help or feedback from others; it can improve your work!"
- "Remember to cite your sources to give credit to the original authors."
- "Drafting is just the beginning; you can always revise and improve your writing."
- "Reading your paper aloud can help you catch mistakes and improve flow."
- "Formatting is important; it makes your paper look professional."
- "Research papers can be challenging, but they also give you a chance to learn something new!"
- "Be patient with yourself; writing takes practice and time."
- "Use visuals, like charts or graphs, to make your paper more engaging."
- "Stay organized; keep your notes and sources in order to make writing easier."
- "Have fun with the process; your unique voice is what makes your paper special!"
- "Remember, every great writer started somewhere, so keep working at it!"