

HEALTH RESEARCH PROJECT

What is this?

A research project—not just a research paper. The process you go through prior to the writing of the paper matters just as much as the paper itself. **Following directions is absolutely essential** if you want the good grade every one of you is capable of getting—even if you don't have much (or any) experience doing research and writing papers—because this is **NOT** all about the paper.

What must you do for this PROJECT?

- **Choose** one article (from a selection of MTHS Library reference book articles) to use as a **basic background source**, and **enter** that article correctly **in *NoodleTools***.
- **Select and print four newspaper and/or magazine articles** (with publication dates no earlier than 2000) from *ProQuest Central K12* and/or *Student Resources in Context*, and **enter** all four of them correctly **in *NoodleTools***.
- **Read** all five of those articles **before beginning the paper**. **While reading** the articles, **highlight** important points and **write numbers** (that correspond to required paragraphs in the paper) next to those important points on the article copies.
- **Write** the paper primarily **in your own words using** information found **ONLY** in those five sources (no prior knowledge, no free-web sites (Google, Bing, etc.), no sources from home, etc.); **include** in the paper at least **one direct quote or statistic from each** one of the five articles and **follow** each one of those quotes and statistics **with a correctly-formatted in-text citation**.
- **After the paper is written**, **circle** (on each article copy) all of the **direct quotes and statistics used** in the paper, and **write** the required **evaluation** at the top of the first page of each article.

What do you need to do tonight?

Find a folder with pockets (an old one is fine) that can be dedicated to this **project** (or 10 cents to buy one).

What must be in that folder when it's handed in?

- ❖ Title page
 - On a separate sheet of paper—does NOT count as one of the pages of the paper
 - Center on **separate** lines in the middle of the page:
 - ◆ Your name / Your topic / Health and your hour (Health 4) / Mr. Ryan / Date
 - Do not include any of this information on the pages of the paper itself
- ❖ Typed paper
 - 3-5 pages (3rd page must be a full page)--title page and Works Cited page do not count (5-7 written pages if it cannot be typed)
 - Double spaced (the entire paper with no extra space between paragraphs)
 - Times New Roman; 12 font; 1" top, bottom, and side margins
 - Written in the 7-paragraph format as explained on the *Directions for Writing the Paper* sheet (**GREEN**)
- ❖ Works Cited page (correctly printed from *NoodleTools*)
- ❖ Printed copies of the five sources (articles) described above
 - Marked as explained on the *Directions for Article Copies* sheet (**PINK**)
- ❖ Blank grade form

How will this PROJECT be graded?

Two grades are averaged together—a grade on the paper (from Mr. Ryan) and one on the research (from Mrs. Bachfischer). Your **research grade** will be the percentage of points earned out of these **550 total points**:

- 250 points—the articles (including highlighting, writing paragraph numbers, and evaluating)
- 100 points—the source page completed in *NoodleTools*
- 200 points—the paper (not based on the quality of the writing but on **following directions**)

What should you do in order to avoid some of the major mistakes that have been made in the past?

- **Follow directions!**
- **Select articles that you really do understand and can use.** Three of the paragraphs in the paper must include causes, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. One additional paragraph will include information like history, living with the disease, outbreaks, or promising new research—exactly what that might be will depend on the topic. While selecting the articles, **keep in mind exactly what it is you must write about.**
- Refer to the **PINK SHEET** to make sure you earn all possible points for the **articles**.
- Refer to the **GREEN SHEET** to make sure you **write the paper** correctly.
- Use information from the **five required sources ONLY**. If you include information in your paper that cannot be found in those sources, you will earn 0 points out of 200 for the paper.
- **Avoid plagiarism.** Write/rewrite in **your own words**. If you do copy from a source, enclose the words in **quotation marks** and include an **in-text citation** identifying the source.
- **Ask for help.** If you don't know how to enter something in *NoodleTools* or if you don't know what to put inside the quotation marks for the in-text citations, don't guess. Come back and ask—even if that means coming back after the days that you are in the library.
- **Follow directions!**

Where do you go each day?

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday—to the library

Friday—to Mr. Ryan's classroom—have all articles and handouts with you

Monday—to the library to finish up research (including making corrections in *NoodleTools*)