

Search Smart Sources

Use focused terms and relevant sources to research a topic.

4.R.1.B "Identify search terms to locate information on the topic and gather relevant information from various print and digital sources."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each search term Maya used. Circle details that tell why a source or piece of information was useful or not useful.

Maya Researches Monarchs

- ① When Maya wanted to learn why monarch butterflies travel long distances, she did not search only "butterflies." That phrase could lead to many unrelated pages. She wrote a focused question: "Why do monarch butterflies migrate?" Then she chose search terms from the question: monarch butterfly migration, monarch migration route, and reasons monarchs migrate. Specific terms helped her find information about the exact topic.
- ② Maya used more than one kind of source. A library book about insects gave her background facts and a map of the migration route. On the website of a nature museum, she found a short article explaining that monarchs move to places with warmer winter weather. She checked the author, date, and organization before deciding the website was a useful source.
- ③ Next, Maya compared what she found. A page about raising caterpillars was interesting, but it did not explain migration, so she set it aside. She wrote notes only from sources that answered her question, including the book and museum article. Using focused search terms and relevant details helped Maya gather information she could use in her report.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which search phrase was too broad for Maya's question, and why?

2 Which search term could help Maya find a map showing where monarchs travel?

3 Name the two sources Maya kept. What useful information did she get from each one?

4 What information did Maya set aside, and why was it not relevant?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a topic you want to research. Write a focused question, three search terms, one print source and one digital source, and a relevant note you could gather from each source.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each search term Maya used. Circle details that tell why a source or piece of information was useful or not useful. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which search phrase was too broad for Maya's question, and why?	"Butterflies" was too broad because it could lead to many unrelated pages.
2	Which search term could help Maya find a map showing where monarchs travel?	monarch migration route
3	Name the two sources Maya kept. What useful information did she get from each one?	She used a library book for background facts and a migration map, and a nature museum website article for information about warmer winter weather.
4	What information did Maya set aside, and why was it not relevant?	She set aside a page about raising caterpillars because it did not explain monarch migration.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Focused question: Where do red foxes live? Search terms: red fox habitat; where do red foxes live; red fox range. Print source: a library book about red foxes, note: red foxes live in forests and grasslands. Digital source: a wildlife agency webpage, note: red foxes may also live near towns and cities.

Accept focused questions and search terms that include the main topic and a useful detail. Accept reasonable print and digital sources if each source and note clearly connect to the student's question.