Search Smart

Choose useful terms and sources for a focused research question.

5.R.1.B "Identify search terms to locate information and gather relevant information from various print and digital sources to address the research."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each search term Maya uses or suggests. Circle each source, then number details that show whether a source is relevant to her research question.

Following the Monarchs

1. When Maya began a report about monarch butterfly migration, she wrote a research question: "How do monarchs travel to Mexico each fall?" She did not search the whole question at once. Instead, she picked important ideas from it: monarch butterflies, migration, Mexico, fall, and routes. These search terms could help her find facts about the journey, rather than pages about monarch colors or garden plants.

2. At the library, Maya used a print book called Animal Migrations. Its table of contents listed a chapter on monarchs, so she checked the index for Mexico and routes. Online, she searched "monarch migration Mexico route." She chose a page from a university insect lab and a page from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Both sources explained where monarchs travel and included maps, which matched her question.

3. Maya also found a gardening blog about planting milkweed. The post was useful for people who wanted to help monarchs, but it did not explain the fall trip to Mexico. She saved it for a different project and kept looking. Before taking notes, Maya checked each source for facts about travel, locations, or maps. Relevant information answers the research question. Extra information may be interesting, but it does not belong in every report.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which five search terms did Maya choose from her research question?

2. What print source did Maya use, and what two digital sources did she choose?

3. Why were the two digital sources relevant to Maya's research question?

4. Why did Maya save the gardening blog for a different project?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a research question about an animal, place, or event. Write three to five search terms, identify one print source and one digital source you would use, and state the information you would look for in each source to decide if it is relevant.

ANSWER KEY

Search Smart

GRADE 5 · 5.R.1.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each search term Maya uses or suggests. Circle each source, then number details that show whether a source is relevant to her research question. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which five search terms did Maya choose from her research question?	**monarch butterflies, migration, Mexico, fall, and routes**
2	What print source did Maya use, and what two digital sources did she choose?	**She used the print book Animal Migrations. She chose a university insect lab page and a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service page.**
3	Why were the two digital sources relevant to Maya's research question?	**They explained where monarchs travel and included maps of the journey.**
4	Why did Maya save the gardening blog for a different project?	**It was about planting milkweed and did not explain the fall trip to Mexico.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Research question: How do sea turtles find their nesting beaches? Search terms: sea turtles, nesting beaches, navigation, magnetic field. Print source: a nonfiction library book about sea turtles, to look for facts about how adult females return to nesting beaches. Digital source: an NOAA Fisheries webpage about sea turtles, to look for facts about sea turtle navigation and nesting locations.

Accept equivalent search terms that focus on the research question, such as monarch route or monarch travel. For the open task, accept reasonable print and digital sources if the student explains what relevant information each source could provide.