

TOPIC SEARCH ACTIVITY

Learn how to improve your online searches to get better results. Write the person/topic you selected below.

PERSON/TOPIC:

Conduct searches with and without using some of the strategies below. Notice how the number and relevancy of your results change.

Tool	Description	Example
“Quotation marks”	All search results must include that exact word/phrase	“Oklahoma author”
NOT or -	Will remove results with that word	Striped animal NOT zebra / striped animal -zebra
AND	Search for multiple keywords together	Dogs AND cats allowed
OR	Include results with either term	Dogs allowed OR welcomed
Site:	Search only a specific website. Do not put a space between the site: and the website name. After the website, include a space and your search term	Site:oklahoma.gov/libraries Public Library Academy
Filetype:	Search for a specific type of file. Useful when you’re trying to locate an article or a document	Filetype:pdf Novelist appeals
Result type filter	Search by images, videos, news, and more to filter what types of results you find.	Image search → Zion National Park
Time Filter	On the search results page, click Tools. You can limit results based on when they were uploaded	Fat bear contest results Tools → Past year
Usage Rights	On an image search, you can use the Tools menu to limit to only images with Creative Commons licenses that you can use.	Library clipart Tools → Usage Rights

1. Visit scholar.google.com and locate a full text peer reviewed article on your topic using some of the searching strategies above.
2. Find a picture with a Creative Commons license that you could use in a presentation about your topic.