Name & Surname: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Research Detectives

Ask a question and find answers!

About 40 minutes Level ★★★☆☆

What Is Research?

Research is a careful way to find **answers** to **questions**. A short project builds **knowledge** about different parts of one topic.



- Start with one focused **question**.
- Use 2 or 3 different **sources**.
- Check the **author**, date, and evidence.
- Take short **notes** in your own words.
- Share learning as a report, **poster**, or talk.

Task A

Example done for you

/5

Color each question box by its group. Think broad or focused.

Focused Question: color it blue or draw ●

Too Broad or Narrow: color it orange or draw ▲

How do cactus plants save water? ●	What is space?	What are three foods owls eat?	What color were a singer's shoes?
How do honeybees talk to each other?	What did a student eat for lunch?		

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Whose Idea Counts?

Talk about good research habits with cartoons.

Key words

research: a careful search for answers

focused: small and clear, not too big

opinion: what someone thinks or feels

source: a book or site where you find facts

fact: something true you can check

Task B

/3

Read what each student says about sources. Write if you agree.



Student A

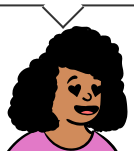
Do I really need more than one **source** for my **project**?

One **source** is enough. More sources waste time.



Student B

Use two or three **sources** to **check** facts and learn more.



Student C

Copy **words** from one website. That is research.



Student D

What do you think of each idea? Why?

Student B: .....

Student C: .....

Student D: .....

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Pick the Best Answer

Show what you know about research steps.

Task C /3

Tick the best answer for each question.

1. What is a good first **step** for a short research project?
   - [ ] Copy a paragraph from a book
   - [ ] Ask a clear, focused question
   - [ ] Write your final poster right away
2. You learn new facts and your **question** feels too big. What should you do?
   - [ ] Give up on the topic
   - [ ] Change the question to fit learning
   - [ ] Use only one source
3. How do you know a **source** is **trustworthy**?
   - [ ] It has bright colors and fun pictures
   - [ ] You check the author, date, and evidence
   - [ ] A friend says it is cool

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Build and Follow Steps

Make sentences and follow research steps.

Task D

/3

Pick one box from each column to build true sentences.

I	asked	a focused question
		two different sources
	checked	my question after learning
We		your own idea
	changed	

Write three sentences

I asked a focused question.

Task E

Follow these research steps. Tick each box when done.



Choose one topic you want to learn ☐



Write one focused research question ☐

Read two different sources for facts ☐



Write short notes in own words ☐

Share learning as poster or talk ☐

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Sort and Tell Apart

Sort sources and explain tricky pairs.

↑↓ Task F Example done for you /5

Sort each word into the right column.

~~library book~~ | museum website | one unchecked page | copied words | news article | random comment

Good Source Use	Poor Source Use
library book	

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Research Detectives

Task G

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Explain how each pair is different in one sentence.

Fact vs **Opinion**

The difference is...

Copying words vs **Writing in your own words**

The difference is...

Broad question vs **Focused question**

The difference is...

How did I do?

Circle a face for each line.

I can ask a focused research question.

I can use 2 or 3 sources and take short notes.

I can share what I learned in my own words.

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Answer sheet: Research Detectives

Task A

Focused Question (blue ●): How do cactus plants save water? What are three foods owls eat? How do honeybees talk to each other?

Too Broad or Narrow (orange ▲): What is space? What color were a singer's shoes? What did a student eat for lunch?

Task B

Student B: not right

Student C: right

Student D: not right

Student C is right because different sources show different parts and help check facts.

Task C

1. b) Ask a clear, focused question
2. b) Change the question to fit learning
3. b) You check the author, date, and evidence

Task D

Answers will vary, e.g. I asked a focused question. We checked two different sources. I changed my question after learning.

Task E

Answers will vary.

Task F

Good Source Use: library book, news article, museum website

Poor Source Use: random comment, copied words, one unchecked page

Task G

1. A fact can be checked and is true, but an opinion is what someone thinks.
2. Copying takes the exact words, but using your own words shows understanding.
3. A broad question is too big to answer, but a focused question is clear and small.

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