

Research Checklist: Grades 3-5

Researchers connect to a topic and think about what they already know.

- I talked with others about why I was interested in my topic.
- I used a KWL chart to record what I **Know** about my topic.

Researchers ask questions about a topic to focus their search for information.

- I brainstormed questions about what I **Want to know**, using a KWL chart.
- I wrote my own questions clearly.

Researchers use sources to find good information.

- I used a book(s) and/or online resources to find answers to my questions.
- I used the Table of Contents and Index to focus my reading.
- I kept track of which resources I used.

Researchers take notes in their own words.

- I wrote my notes in a list with bullet points.
- I did not copy the sentences from the book. (That's plagiarism!)
- I made sure my notes answered my research questions.

Researchers share what they learned.

- I put my research facts together into a presentation, showing what I **Learned**.
- I did neat, careful work so that others can **learn** about my topic.

Researchers are writers.

- I wrote sentences that are interesting to read.
- I used capital letters at the beginning of sentences.
- I used periods, question marks, or exclamation points at the ends of sentences.

Researchers reflect - they evaluate their own work.

- Next time I do research, I need help with (circle any):
thinking about what I know

Name _____ Room _____

asking questions
finding answers
taking notes
citing sources
sharing/writing/presenting

- I can help others with (circle any):
thinking about what I know
asking questions
finding answers
taking notes
citing sources
sharing/writing/presenting

Congratulations! You are a researcher!

You can find out - and teach others - about almost anything if you use these steps.