
STEP 2—PLANNING YOUR RESEARCH AND PRODUCT

What do you want to learn about your topic? You can define this by coming up with six questions for approval by your instructor. Sometimes it is best to develop these questions together with your instructor. You may want to look at John's sample report which is included in this booklet.

Once you figure out your questions you'll need to line up some information sources where you can gather data and answers. Typically, you'll begin this search in the library. Getting help from the librarian can save you time and effort, however, you can also use people as references. You may also want to visit a place where you can collect brochures or information sheets. For instance, if you work in a park environmental project, they will have information about park restoration and volunteering which could go in your report.

In Step 2 you must also begin to plan the kind of learning product you will put together at the end. You'll find many helpful suggestions for possible products and projects in this section. Generally, you'll choose either writing a report, constructing a display, or doing a performance. You may also propose another idea to your instructors such as crafting a brochure or "how-to" booklet.

