

The Central Bucks Research Model

Since assessment guides instruction, the Central Bucks Research model is based upon the skills needed for success in the 6th grade assessment. Our model is also based on the Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening, and the Understanding by Design philosophy of working backward.

Step 1: Choose a Topic

Step 2: Plan keywords for research

Step 3: “Presearch”-- locate and evaluate sources following the Hierarchy of Research

Step 4: Read for Understanding

Step 5: Develop Research Questions

Step 6: Set up note-taking tools

Step 7: Take Notes

Step 8: Credit sources

Step 9: Organize information

Step 10: Continue with writing process

Overview of Best Practice in Research

Best practice dictates that research should be a collaborative teaching process which includes both the classroom teacher and the librarian. Before beginning any research unit, you will want to meet with your librarian to coordinate and plan. It is best not to try to teach research in isolation or to use methods that differ from the district model.

If all teachers follow the same model, it will eliminate reteaching every skill when students enter the next grade. It is important to note that research is not just a library skill or a sixth grade responsibility. It is a vertically integrated skill that is built upon each year. Research is also developmental, beginning with the rudimentary extraction of basic facts and building to the application and synthesis of information.

The 21st century learner will be inundated with and have access to more information than we can even begin to comprehend. In order to prepare our students for the complex work force of the future, the Central Bucks School District's mission is to prepare our students to evaluate, analyze, and interpret information and to be able to present their new knowledge through written and oral communication and through the use of current media.