

Scientific Research Exploration

Scientific journals and articles are a great way to research a topic and learn how other experiments have been conducted. They are an integral part of composing your own scientific article because they provide a source of information that directly correlates to the research one does at a collegiate, and sometimes high school level.

The goal of this activity is to give you the opportunity to delve into scientific articles and begin gathering information on a topic that interests you.

To start out, think of a topic related to marine ecology that interests you (dorsal fin identification, fish population studies, role of keystone species in a marine habitat, etc.). Once you have thought of a topic you would like to research, go onto Google Scholar (scholar.google.com). This is a great site that compiles thousands of scientific articles and allows you to search for articles and papers that relate to your research topic*.

After you have found an article that interests you, read through the article and then answer the questions found below to expand your scientific thought process.

*Keep in mind that some of these articles require special access via institutional log ins (college, high schools).

Questions (to be answered after reading article)

1. What is the hypothesis?
2. What methods were used?
3. What were the results?
4. Did the results agree with the hypothesis? Why or why not?
5. Were there any significant findings?
6. What are human factors/ errors that could have impacted results?



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