



Class Title: Orange Introduction to Research

Teacher Name: Samantha Procopio

Class Day: Friday

Class Size: 18

Class Supply Fee: \$40

Class Fee: \$96

Ages or color group served: Orange

What level is this class: Level 3

Prerequisites:

Basic reading comprehension – to understand and analyze articles and sources.

Basic writing ability – to form complete sentences and organize ideas.

Graduation Requirements: Students must submit a final research project.

Homework Requirements: Students will have weekly homework assignments that support the research project they'll complete by the end of the class.

Class Description:

This middle school-level course introduces students to the fundamentals of research, helping them develop critical thinking, organization, and communication skills. Students will learn how to ask good questions, find reliable sources, take effective notes, and present their findings clearly. By the end of the course, they will complete a research project on a topic of their choice, applying the skills they have learned.

Week 1:

What is Research?



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Explore what research is and why it matters. Learn the difference between facts, opinions, and misinformation.

Week 2:

Asking Strong Questions

Practice writing open-ended research questions and forming a thesis statement.

Week 3:

Finding Credible Sources

Learn to distinguish between reliable and unreliable sources (including websites).

Week 4:

Taking Notes & Avoiding Plagiarism

Practice note-taking strategies and learn how to paraphrase and cite sources.

Week 5:

Organizing Your Ideas

Break down the structure of a research paper and start outlining ideas.

Week 6:

Writing Strong Paragraphs

Learn how to build well-organized body paragraphs and use transitions.

Week 7:

Citations Made Simple

Get familiar with MLA-style citations and why they matter.

Week 8:

Editing & Revising

Use self-editing tools and peer feedback to improve clarity and structure.

Week 9:

Creating a Visual Aid



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Turn your research into a visual (poster, slides, handout) for your presentation.

Week 10:

Presentation Practice

Practice speaking confidently and clearly. Rehearse with a partner.

Week 11:

Presentation Day!

Students will present their research projects and visual aids to the class.

Week 12:

Wrap-Up & Celebration

Reflect on what we've learned, talk about how to use these skills in the future, and celebrate your hard work!