**What is your research topic and/or research question?**

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**Tell me about what you know now or would like to know about your topic in a few statements or sentences. How does is relate to you? Why are you interested in the topic? Who does it impact? Where does it happen?** [**What do the library reference sources say about the topic?**](http://normandale.lib.minnstate.edu/subjects/guide.php?subject=biol1110dambroski) **(In other words: Who, what, where, when, why, how?)**

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**Find your keywords: (What are the important words and terms in your sentences? These are great things to search. Keep them short one to three words works the best)**

**What are some synonyms for the keywords you have found? (for example: Teen can also be: juvenile, teenage, adolescent, youth) (Use** [**www.thesaurus.com**](http://www.thesaurus.com)**)**

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| **Keywords** | **Synonym(s)** |
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**Search help: Putting keywords together Use Boolean Operators (AND/OR/NOT) to broaden or narrow your search.**

• AND--will narrow a search. All search terms must be in the record.

• OR--will broaden a search. Either or both terms must appear in the record.

• NOT--will narrow a search. The term following “not” won’t appear in a record.

**Other search tips:**

•Use quotes “ “ to keep words together as a phrase (“learning disabilities”)

• Use the asterisk \* to find alternate endings to words (child\* would retrieve child, children, children’s, childhood, etc.)

