

conducting a literature search

1

DEFINE YOUR RESEARCH QUESTION

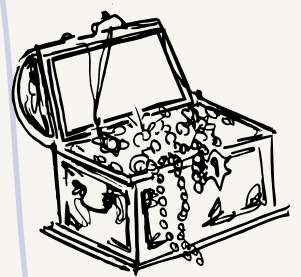
- should be specific, relevant and **focused**
- identify relevant keywords and search terms



2

USE A DATABASE

- check for FULL-TEXTS (OPEN ACCESS)
- limit search to FIVE YEARS
- do it once, do it right
- recommended : **PubMed**



3

REVIEW AND EVALUATE RESULTS

- REVIEW abstracts and keywords
- use CITATION TRACKING
- consider the SOURCE of an article
- EVALUATE the author's credentials
- check for BIAS
- assess the QUALITY of the research



4

ORGANIZE

- SELECT most appropriate sources
- use REFERENCE MANAGEMENT tools
- recommended : Zotero
- create FOLDERS, build TAGS



5

READ AND ANALYSE

- skim then read actively
- HIGHLIGHT and SUMMARIZE main points of a paper
- take effective NOTES, jot down what you think
- COMPARE & CONTRAST sources
- CROSS-CHECK references



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