

Google Search Training: Lesson Overview

The following text is taken from Google's Search Education website:
<http://www.google.com/insidesearch/searcheducation/index.html>

To help students complete research projects related to school, extra-curricular, work, and personal tasks, we have developed these series of lessons to assist you in teaching skills related to the Google search engine. These lessons are intended for students at a range of grade levels and technological expertise.

Levels of Lessons

These lessons are divided into three different levels: **Beginner**, **Intermediate**, and **Advanced**. There are four or five lessons within each level. Students of all ages will be at different entry levels in their expertise with regard to research and technology use, and specifically search.

The Beginner lessons are designed for students with no or limited knowledge of conducting a search, whereas the Advanced lessons are geared to more adept users. Although it may seem that Beginner lessons are meant for younger students, this is not always the case. There might be high school students who have not had the advantage of experimenting with a computer and accessing information on the web. If this is the case, educators who serve older students might begin with the Beginner lessons. By the same token, younger students might have the readiness level to begin at the Intermediate or Advanced levels.

Lesson Topic	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced
Picking the right search terms	Pick the best words to use in academic searching, whether students are beginning with a full question or a topic of just a few words. View lesson	Identify unique search terms to locate targeted sources and to use "context terms" to uncover appropriate evidence. View lesson	Explore "firm" and "soft" search terms, and practice using context terms to locate subject-specific collections of information on the web. View lesson
Understanding search results	Learn about the different parts of the results page, and about how to evaluate individual results based on cues like web addresses and snippets. View lesson	Use the results page to check the quality of a search process, and explore specific strategies students can use to improve their searches and their results. View lesson	Engage additional search strategies, such as generalization and specialization. View lesson
Narrowing a search to get the best results	Apply filtering tools and basic "operators" to narrow search results. View lesson	Explore filters and additional operators to find new ways to narrow their results. View lesson	Compare results for basic searches with ones that use operators to discover the impact the right operator has at the right time. View lesson
Searching for evidence for research tasks	Draw stronger terms from preliminary search results, identify evidence, and explore using various media to locate specific types of evidence. View lesson	Investigate different page formats (blogs, news articles, wikis, etc), and how to identify the right format for the type of information students are seeking. View lesson	Examine Google Scholar, and learn how to find specific collections of information that will contain the best evidence for students' research task. View lesson
Evaluating credibility of sources	Consider, tone, style, audience, and purpose to determine the credibility of a source. View lesson	Consider, tone, style, audience, and purpose to determine the credibility of a source. View lesson	Track information to a reasonable source and recognize and consider the impact of bias in assessing the credibility of information. View lesson

Standards Alignment

These series of lessons reside within a larger comprehensive unit that you conduct around various Common Core or other state standards involving research, such as those that include reading informational text, conducting research, utilizing technology, and writing informational/explanatory works or opinions/arguments. [Please click here to view a complete list of standards to which these lessons align.](#)

You can find the lesson plans online by visiting: <http://www.google.com/insidesearch/searcheducation/lessons.htm>