

CHEMISTRY-NEWSFLASH

THE DRIVE TO INQUIRE : WHAT'S NEW?

Books cannot keep pace with the daily advances in the Sciences; books, by virtue of the publication process, are always dealing with information that has had some time to “congeal” and take shape. Keeping up with advances in CHEMISTRY and chemistry-based research areas requires a MIND FOR INQUIRY, a constant drive to know more, think more critically and deeply, and apply more recent information and findings to new problems and new solutions. Keeping up to date requires the scientist to become a reader, especially of the journals that present the latest research particular to his/her field.

INSTRUCTIONS:

As a young chemist, you are studying the _____. Your work will extend from recent findings ... but what's new?

1. You may start with Google or Wikipedia to get the “scope” or broad summary of the field and then to narrow the broad topic to some *key terms* to search.
2. Find a current (last 2 years) journal article in the *Academic Search Premier* or *Student Research Centre* databases that presents new findings, direction, or developments for one aspect of (“ _____ ” – chemistry-related term here)
3. Select an article for its *credibility / reliability*. That is, does it have merit both for your audience and for science? Your presentation should include details about why and how you selected the article:
 - Is it current?
 - Is it written by someone with “authority” and/or published by a recognized body?
 - Is the article “accessible” for you and your classmates? That is, can you read and understand it, then present it simply but effectively for your audience?
 - Is it relevant to your work as a young chemist? What interested you about it?
 - Does it reflect sound scientific methodology?
4. Prepare to make a simple, concise, and interesting presentation of this new research-related development to your classmates. Be sure to begin with an explanation of the topic of your research in relation to “ _____ ” (chemistry foundational topic). Summarize the new information you have found, include an account of your choosing the article, and conclude with what interested you about the new developments you have read about.
5. Hand in a copy of the article you have chosen to review findings from, including the citation in MLA Style.

ASSESSMENT: /15

OK G VVG

Article chosen has “credibility” according to criteria listed in #3

1 2 3

Presentation was “accessible” and interesting for audience

1 2 3

Student demonstrated understanding of and interest in the topic

1 2 3

Topic / article was relevant and selection process was clearly described

1 2 3

Key terms and concepts were well chosen for sharing new findings

1 2 3