

# Preparing for CCHS AP Research

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_

One of the most recurrent feedback and reflection themes from AP Research students is that they wish they had developed their research question sooner. To help you with that, I'm providing a framework for organizing your topic and method exploration. Complete the following steps prior to the first day of classes in August. Don't stress; you aren't committing to anything yet! This assignment will take you some time. Please begin in early August.

## 1. Create your Google folder

- a. Name it as follows: [your last name] AP Research
- b. Share it with Mrs. Swiatek ([lauraswiatek@grcatholiccentral.org](mailto:lauraswiatek@grcatholiccentral.org)) as an editor.
- c. Move this document into that folder.

## 2. Examine model papers

Take a look at the sample papers provided to you in the Binder of 5s (and [here](#)). All of these papers earned a score of 5. **Highlight** where you see the research question and the method description and annotate with your thoughts as needed. Then, record summary notes below. My hope is that this gives you some initial appreciation for the wide range of research questions and methods AP Research students can employ!

Paper	Research question / purpose	Brief method description
1		
2		
3		
4		

5		
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9		
10		

### **3. Methods of interest**

Are there two or three methods used in these papers, *or* among the methods introduced by Mr. Schrems, that seem to be a good fit for you? What style of exploring appeals to you? Why? Explain your initial thinking here.

### **4. Topics of interest**

Do some exploratory research on topics that naturally interest you. Use both popular online sites and scholarly databases like EBSCO for this. Pay attention to what you find compelling and what leads you to ask questions. Record thoughts, questions, and links to articles.

### 5. Find a weird academic study

There's a prize for the weirdest; we will vote on a winner. One student found a study about [potty training cows](#) (Whistance et al., 2009)! This is meant to be fun and can be any topic. Include a link to the study below and an explanation of why you chose it. It must have:

- a literature review section
- a methods section
- an analysis/conclusion/discussion section

HAPPY HUNTING!

### WORK CITED

Whistance, L. K., Sinclair, L. A., Arney, D. R., Phillips, C. J. C. (2009). Trainability of eliminative behaviour in dairy heifers using a secondary reinforcer. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 117(3-4), 128-136. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2009.01.004>