

Using the Big6 Process* to Solve Information Problems

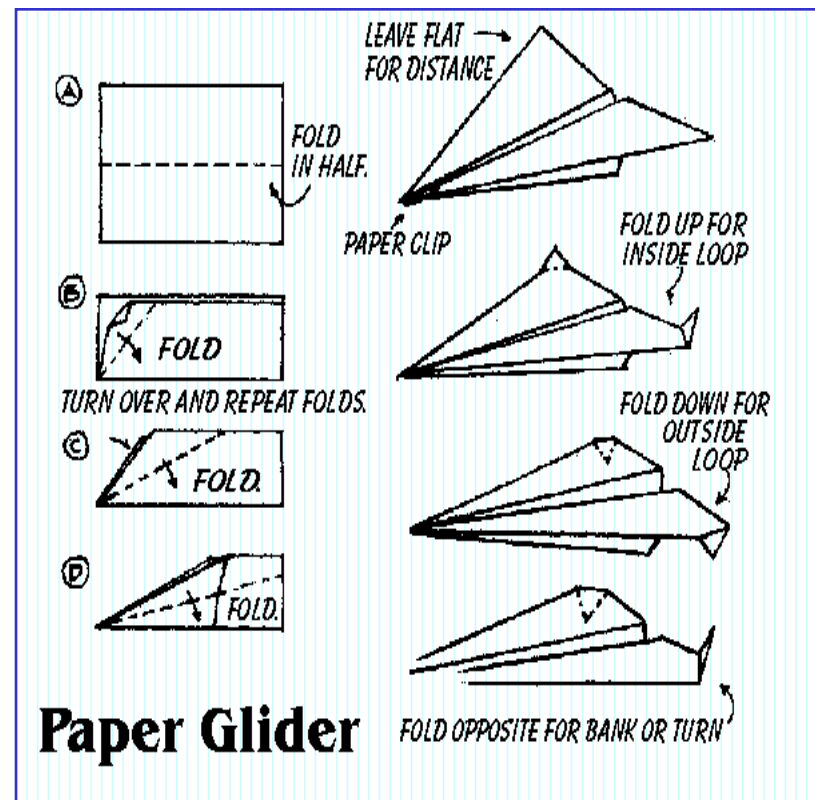
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*Big6 Process developed by Michael Eisenberg and Robert Berkowitz
Picture courtesy of **Snowy Day** by Ezra Jack Keats





What does "process" mean?

- A process is a **series** of actions, or **steps**, that lead to a result, or product.
- Each step in a process is **necessary**.
- When each step is completed, the **product**, is successful.





What are the steps?

- 
- Step 1. **Defining the Task**
 - Step 2. **Selecting Sources of Information**
 - Step 3. **Finding the Information**
 - Step 4. **Gathering & Sorting the Facts**
 - Step 5. **Organizing & Presenting the Product**
 - Step 6. **Evaluating the Results**
- 



Why must I learn these steps?

- Each step uses a **skill** that helps you solve any information problem.
- Each step takes you **closer** to finishing your task.
- Each step, when completed carefully, helps you to **finish your task well**.

Let's take a closer look at these six steps!



Step1. Defining the Task

- 1.1 What's my information **problem**?

(task, assignment)



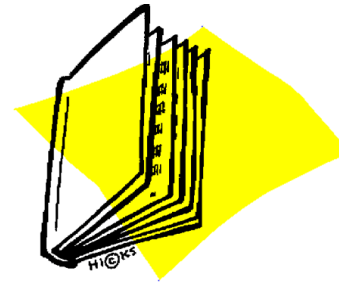
- 1.2 What **kinds of information** do I need?

(Develop research questions.)



Step 2. Selecting Sources of Information

- 2.1 What are my **possible** sources of information?
(Brainstorm ideas.)



- 2.2 What are my **best** sources of information?
(Choose best sources.)



Step 3. Finding the Information

- 3.1 Where can I **find my sources** of information? Who will help me?
- 3.2 How will I **find the information** in these sources?
(Use book index; use search directories.)



Step 4. Gathering and Sorting the Facts

- 4.1 How do I **access** the information?
(read, view, listen)
- 4.2 How do I **take notes**?
(on graphic organizer)



Step 5. Organizing and Presenting the Product

- 5.1 How do I **organize** my information?
(e.g., in paragraphs)
- 5.2 How do I **present** my results?
(e.g., written report, poster, diorama, PowerPoint)




Step 6. Evaluating the Results

- 6.1 How do I judge my **product**?
(effectiveness)
- 6.2 How do I judge the **process** I used?
(efficiency)



Big6 Organizer

- Complete Steps 1-5 on Big 6 organizer **right away.**
- Complete Step 6 **before passing in** project.
- Keep organizer handy **for review.**

Big6 Organizer – Grade 4 

Name: _____ Draft Due Date: _____
Teacher: _____ Final Due Date: _____

Step 1. Defining the Task My topic and questions are:

Topic: State _____

Essential Question:
How do the location, climate, major physical features, major natural resources and principal industries of each state affect the people who live there?

Research Questions:

1. Where in the United States is your state located and how does the location affect its climate?
2. What are the major physical features of your state? Describe three.
3. What are the major natural resources of your state? Describe three.
4. What are the principal industries of your state? Describe three.

Step 2. Selecting Resources My best information resources are:


Books Encyclopedia Magazines Newspapers
 Websites Other _____

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Note-taking Organizer

- Write notes on **graphic organizer**.
- Write **key facts** as single word or phrase.
- **Do not** write in complete sentences.

Big6 Note-taking Organizer (B) Name: _____ Assignment: _____



Picture of this Question

Fact 1

Fact 2

Research Question # _____
Paragraph # _____

Fact 3

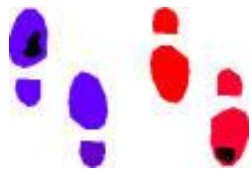
Fact 4

Fact 5

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What materials do I need?

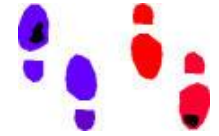
- Make certain you **write down** on your Big6 organizer all the materials you will need to make your product!





Let's Review:

- When you do an assignment, you have to *define* what your task is, *select*, *locate*, and *use* your information resources.
- Then, you *organize* your information, *evaluate* your job, and *present* your results.
- Bravo! You have followed **the steps** in a **process** to a **successful completion!**



Remember,

you can solve any kind of information problem - by following the Big6 steps!*

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