

# Steps in the Research Process



## 1. Questioning

- Develop an essential question which will focus your research.
- Generate subsidiary questions which will guide your research.

## 2. Planning

- Determine where the most reliable information can be found.
- Determine which resources will most efficiently provide helpful information.

## 3. Gathering

- Gather information that answers the subsidiary questions.
- Gather other information that is clearly related to your topic and questions.
- Revise and expand the essential question based on your research.

## 4. Sorting and Sifting

- Read through the gathered information.
- Organize your note cards and/or fact sheets.
- Drop/eliminate information that is not needed.

## 5. Synthesizing

- Make sense of all the information you have gathered.
- Look for meaningful ways to use the information in your final product.

## 6. Evaluating

- Determine which subsidiary questions need more research.
- Cycle back to Step 3 (Gathering).

## 7. Reporting

- Select an appropriate method for reporting.
- Share your new understandings and insights.

*\* Adapted from Dr. Jamison McKenzie*