



Searching Google and Databases - 7th grade

Creating and searching keywords



Expanding your list of possible keywords

Use Google to search for **materials that rot**

Scan the results page and find alternative words or phrases that you can use as keywords.

Make note of potential keywords. Use them to find different results.



Changing word order can change results

Use Google to search for

dog chow

Use Google to search for

chow dog

What differences are you noticing?



Using operators to change search results

Using the + or - sign or “ “ marks can change search results.

Search for **beetle**



Using operators to change search results continued

Now search for **beetle +virginia**

Search for beetle again.

Search for **beetle -insect**

Note that the + or - sign needs to be right in front of the word, no space!



Using operators to change search results continued

Quotation marks keep words together for searches.

Search for **materials that rot**

Search for **“materials that rot”**

How do your results differ?

Searching Databases



Many of the same strategies used in Google work in databases. For instance, using “ ” to keep words together.

Also, using the words **and**, **not**, or **or** will expand or refine your search.

Search for the following using the database *Science in Context*:

Fossil fuel

Fossil fuel or coal

Fossil fuel and coal

Fossil fuel not coal

Fossil fuel and coal not oil

Note how the number of *Academic Journals* changes depending on your search term.