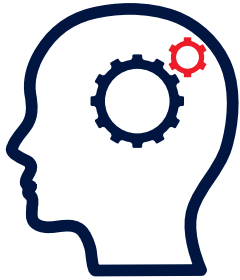
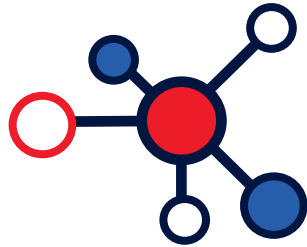


# Effective Searching



## Look at your assessment task or question

What are the main ideas?  
What concepts or theories have you covered in your subject?  
Write down your main ideas, synonyms, related words and phrases.



## Connect your search words

**OR**  
adolescent OR teenager.  
These words mean the same thing.  
This search will find either (or both) of the search words

**AND**  
adolescent AND “physical activity”  
These words represent the main ideas in the question.  
This will find results with both of the search words.



## Use search tricks

**\***  
This symbol \* helps you to search for different word endings.  
teen\* will find results with the words:  
teen, teens, teenager, teenagers

**“ ”**  
Quotation marks e.g. “physical activity”  
This will find common phrases in your results and make your results more relevant.



## Improve your results

Narrow search results in databases by:

- Year (for up to date research)
- Type (e.g. article or book)
- Subject (for relevance)
- And more!



## Practice Searching

Try using your own assessment question.  
[Search Word Generator](#)  
This will help you to think of search words and use AND/ OR.  
[Library Search](#)  
This is a 5-10 minute guided search with the Library Search Engine.

Ask a Librarian – in person or online  
[www.library.uow.edu.au/ask](http://www.library.uow.edu.au/ask)

Based on [Literature Search](#) by Katie Kavanagh Webb.



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