

Research Notes, Paraphrase & Attribution

Gather focused notes from trusted sources, paraphrase accurately and record enough source information to return to the evidence.

LEARN • PRACTISE • CREATE • REFLECT

Original BrightPencil Kids resource - adult-led where appropriate

A4 edition • 12 purposeful pages • review copy

Print. Learn. Grow.

Grown-up guide

Learning objective

Gather focused notes from trusted sources, paraphrase accurately and record enough source information to return to the evidence.

Use this pack well

- Model the first example aloud, then let the learner try.
- Ask “How do you know?” more often than “Are you finished?”.
- Use real objects, talk, movement or observation when the activity suggests it.
- Stop or shorten the session if attention or enjoyment drops.
- Open-ended pages can have many successful answers.

Quality note

This resource was written originally for BrightPencil Kids. Curriculum sources informed scope and progression only; no third-party worksheet or story text is reproduced.

Learn the idea

1 Good notes answer a research question rather than collecting every interesting fact.

2 Paraphrasing requires understanding before rewriting.

3 Attribution helps readers know where information came from and lets the writer recheck it.

Talk about it

Explain one idea in your own words. Give an example from real life, a drawing or an object if that helps.

Turn a broad topic into two focused research questions.

Separate quote-sized wording, paraphrase and personal note in a sample notebook.

Paraphrase a short factual passage after covering the original.

Record source title/organisation, page or URL note and date accessed in a simple child-appropriate format.

Remove an unsupported fact that cannot be traced to a source.

Try it beyond the page

Real-world / hands-on connection

Research one safe, non-sensitive question with an adult using two trusted sources; keep source notes separate from your own ideas.

Before you finish

What did you notice?

What evidence, object or example helped you?

What would you change if you tried again?

Create something

Your project

Create a one-page research record: question, source notes, paraphrase, comparison and unanswered question.

Use this space for planning, drawing, mapping, designing or notes.

CHALLENGE

Think deeper

1. Why keep source details?

2. Is changing two words enough to make a paraphrase?

3. What should notes focus on?

Quick review

1. In one sentence, explain the big idea of “Research Notes, Paraphrase & Attribution”.

2. Draw or write one example that shows you understand.

3. Choose one activity from this pack and explain the strategy you used.

4. Write one question you still have.

Answer & discussion notes

Use these as guidance, not scripts. Open questions can have different successful responses when the reasoning is sensible and evidence-based.

1. Suggested response

So evidence can be checked and credited.

2. Suggested response

No.

3. Suggested response

Information relevant to the research question.

Review before publication

Check age fit, factual accuracy, clarity, accessibility, rights provenance and whether the activity works in practice. This file remains a review copy until those checks are signed off.

FINISH

My learning reflection

I finished this BrightPencil learning pack.

One thing I understand better now:

A strategy that helped me:

Something I created or noticed:

My next small question or goal:

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