

Finding, reading, understanding, and summarizing a scientific paper

A scientific paper is a report published in a peer-reviewed journal that represents the most recent thinking on a subject in science. Scientific papers usually fall into one of two categories. Research articles describe original research conducted by the authors. Review articles summarize and analyze large amounts of research published in separate studies. For this assignment, you should find a research article to work with.

Use the school's access to online databases to find a scientific paper on an environmental issue (<http://web.ccis.edu/Offices/Library>). On the library page, click on "Articles and Databases," in the middle section. It will expand (see below) providing a search box and an option to limit your searches to full text results (which you should check). Type in some keywords just like you were searching in google, and a list of matching articles will load. On this new page you can add more search terms to refine your results. Scan the articles to find one that you will use for the rest of the assignment.

The screenshot shows the Columbia College Library website. At the top, there are navigation links for CC Home, eServices, CougarMail, and Calendar, along with social media icons. The main header features the Columbia College logo and the word "LIBRARY". A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the header, the page is divided into three main sections: Stafford Library, Columbia College Library, and Contact Us. The Stafford Library section includes links for Library Home, Contact Us, Find It, and Research Help. The Columbia College Library section has a "Books, Media & More" button and an expanded "Articles & Databases" section. This section contains a search box with the text "Quick search for Articles (Learn More):", a "Search" button, and a checkbox for "Limit Results to only Full Text". Below the search box are links for "Articles & Databases home", "Databases by Subject", and "Electronic Resources A-to-Z". The Contact Us section provides contact information for phone, chat, text, email, and consultation.

Next, you should read the paper and try to understand it the best you can. For some help in this regard, please follow the suggestions at the following site:

http://hampshire.edu/~apmNS/design/RESOURCES/HOW_READ.html .

Write a short summary of each of the sections of the paper (Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion). These should be 3-4 sentences each. Additionally, write up a summary of your thoughts on the article, explain how the scientific method was used to help something about the natural world, or any other thoughts on these papers as part of the process of science.

TYPE! STAPLE! Turn in next class period (January 23rd).