

RECIPE FOR A RESEARCH PAPER



The prep work is an important aspect of cooking up a tasty and nutritious research paper. Ingredients (information) you gather must be fact-based and documented.

Use the following Prep ingredients:

- * **Prep Worksheet** - develop your topic and the questions you need to answer as part of your research
- * **Resource Note Cards** - create one card for each resource you use.
- * **Research Note Cards** - write one fact on each card. Use the subtopics you developed on your Prep Worksheet and use the numbers you assigned to your Resource Note Cards.
- * **Develop an outline using your notecards.**

Sift research and gradually add to the following ingredients:

1. **Title** - your title should inform your reader about your paper topic.
2. **Thesis** - this statement declares what you believe and what you intend to prove. Do not use the word "I." A research paper is based on facts and is not written in the first person.
3. **Add several cups (paragraphs) of research.** Each question that you researched will become the main topic of a paragraph. The details you use in each paragraph should answer the question you posed and researched.
4. **Sparingly sprinkle subheadings or section titles** at the beginning of each paragraph. You could also use questions as you develop subheadings in your paper.
5. **Conclusion** - What do you want your reader to learn or remember from your paper?

Use your Ingredient checklist to make sure you have combined everything you need to make your research paper a main dish. Bake in a moderate to high oven. Top with **biographical information** included on your Resource Note Cards. You may need to make revisions depending on altitude.