



YPAR in School

Research Method 2: Surveys



Objective

To introduce students to surveys as a basic research skill

Activity: Learning about Surveys

Materials

- PowerPoint from YPARinSchool.com “Sample Surveys Overview”
- PowerPoint from YPARinSchool.com “Asking Good Questions”
- PowerPoint from YPARinSchool.com “Sampling Badly”

Pre-Activity

Have students create a KWL (Know, Want to Know, Learn) chart in their process journals about surveys.

Activity

Present the PowerPoint “Sample Surveys Overview” to students.

Sample discussion questions and activities to supplement PowerPoint:

- Have students search the Pew Research Center for their research question
- Lead a discussion on why students think avoiding bias is an important aspect of surveys

Present the PowerPoint “Asking Survey Questions” to students.

Sample discussion questions and activities to supplement PowerPoint:

- In small groups, have students create survey questions that are bias and free of bias. Exchange questions and have other groups pick out which are free of bias.



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Present the PowerPoint “Sampling Badly” to students.

Sample discussion questions and activities to supplement PowerPoint:

- Put students into 5 small groups. Each group will create a poster for one of the five mistakes. Have students present posters and put on wall.

Reflection

At the end of the lesson, have students fill out the “L” portion of their “KWL” chart and discuss as a group.