

# Project Connection

## Research

As you continue with your course project, you will need to conduct some outside research. The strategies that follow will help you begin collecting your data.

### Identify Key Words

Start by listing words and phrases that are central to your topic. You might also list synonyms for your topic. This step will help you to identify possible resources and keep you focused only on information that is relevant. Be sure to include in your list the expanded form of any abbreviations specific to your subject area. For example, if your topic were related to the publishing field, you might need to know that ISBN stands for International Standard Book Number, a 10-digit number assigned to every book prior to publication; ed. stands for editor or edition; CIP stands for Cataloguing in Publication, which is data that helps librarians catalogue the book; and so on.

### Consult Others

List the names of people who might be able to assist you with obtaining the information you need, and then identify how you might go about contacting each person on your list. Your school or community librarian can be of invaluable assistance in helping you locate relevant information in encyclopedias, almanacs, periodicals, government documents, and other resources. Community college or university libraries are another excellent source of reference material. As well, ask your teachers, parents/guardians, community leaders, professionals, and so on, for their input. If they are unable to provide you with the information you are seeking, they may be able to direct you to others who can help.

