

iCONN Learning Activity

Teens and Television

Level: Middle School

Task: Students are asked to explore the impact of television viewing on teen health. Each student will search iCONN Newsstand for an article about the impact of television viewing on teens, either pro or con. Students must then find at least two other articles that support their stance on the issue. In teams, students will work to develop and conduct a survey to assess teen television viewing habits among their peers.

Research Question: What impact, if any, does television viewing have on teen mental, emotional or physical health?

Content Area(s): Health, Math, Language Arts

State Content Standard(s):

Health:

Standard 1. Healthy and Active. Students will establish and maintain healthy eating patterns and a physically active life.

Math:

Working with Data. How can collecting and displaying data help us analyze information and make reasonable predictions and informed decisions?

Language Arts:

Standard 1. Reading and Responding: How do we understand what we read?

Students will use appropriate strategies before, after and during reading in order to construct meaning.

- Draw conclusions and substantiate them by using the text and prior knowledge

iCONN Database(s): *iCONN Newsstand, Health and Wellness Resource Center, InfoTrac Junior Edition*

Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Click on *Advanced Search* next to the Search box
4. Click on *Clear Checkmarks* to uncheck all databases
5. Click on Newspapers to select all newspapers (checkboxes listed individually below the Newspapers heading – e.g., *New York Times, Hartford Courant*, etc. – will all be checked)
6. Enter *television* in the first search box, leave the And connector selected
7. Enter *viewing* in the second search box, leave the And connector selected

8. Enter *health* in the third search box
9. In the “Limit Results for Databases” section, select *To Full text articles Yes*
10. Click *Search* (or hit ENTER)
11. Results sets will appear for each newspaper – click on the number of hits next to a given newspaper name to be brought into its list of matching articles
12. Scan the list and click on the article’s name (or *Full Text*) to view the article

Then...

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *Health and Wellness Resource Center*
4. Click *Advanced Search*
5. Enter *television viewing* in the first search box and use the connector *AND*
6. Enter *health* in the second box and use the connector *NOT*
7. Enter *adults* in the third search box
8. Limit the search to *Full text articles*
9. Click *Search* (or hit ENTER)
10. Click on the article title to open it

Alternate Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *InfoTrac Junior Edition*
4. Enter *television* in the search box and click *Find* (or hit ENTER)
5. Scan the subjects for information related to your task (e.g., *Television and Children*)
6. Click on *View* next to the types of articles (click on the *Next* arrow at the bottom of the pages for more subjects, if necessary)
7. You also could click on “*See also*” *subdivisions* and then click on the subdivision appropriate to your task (e.g., *health aspects*)
8. Click on the title or *Check Out* to read an article

Adaptations for Differentiated Learning:

Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *InfoTrac Student Edition*
4. Enter *television viewing AND children* in the search box
5. Limit the search to *documents with full text*
6. Limit your search to more current information by selecting *after* and then a recent year (e.g., *1 January 2006*) from the pull down menu
7. Click *Search* (or hit ENTER)
8. Click on the title or *Text* to read an article

-- OR --

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *Kids InfoBits*
4. Enter *television* in the search box
5. Click *SEARCH* (or hit ENTER)
6. Under *Television and Children* (or your specific topic) click *VIEW*
7. Click on the title of an article to read it
8. The first results you get are *Reference*. Click on other active (*highlighted*) *tabs* (e.g., *Magazines* or *Charts and Graphs*) for additional resources
9. Click on a title to read the article

Revised by iCONN Staff, July 2008