

Using Wikipedia to Find Background Information, Generate Search Terms & Find Useful Sources



Part 1: Finding More About Your Topic

Go to Wikipedia (www.wikipedia.org) and look up your topic (or issues related to your topic)

Read through the Entry and list 2 things you didn't know about your topic before you looked up the entry in Wikipedia:

1.

2.

Part 2: Finding Other Resources from Wikipedia

As you read through the entries look for the citation numbers used to support the entry. Click on this number. It will take you to the bottom of the page and the reference list.

Example from the entry: Sleep Deprivation

that are depleted in clinically depressed persons, to increase. Sleep outside of the REM phase may allow enzymes to repair brain cell damage caused by [free radicals](#). High metabolic activity while awake damages the enzymes themselves preventing efficient repair. This study observed the first evidence of brain damage in rats as a direct result of sleep deprivation.^[21]

Animal studies suggest that sleep deprivation increases [stress hormones](#), which may reduce new cell production in adult brains.^[22]

Then, if possible, click on the article or website the citation links to:

- [suggestive linkage to 2p11-q14 and 13q21-33](#) [Am J Psychiatry](#) **164** (2): 236–47. doi:10.1176/appi.ajp.164.2.236 [PMID 11267781](#)
- [^](#) Siegel, Jerome M. (November 2003). "Why We Sleep" [Scientific American](#). Retrieved 2008-04-03.
 - [^](#) [No sleep means no new brain cells](#) ←
 - [^](#) Vgontzas AN, Mastorakos G, Bixler EO, Kales A, Gold PW, Chrousos GP (August 1999). "Sleep deprivation effects on the activity of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal and growth axes: potential clinical implications" [Clin. Endocrinol.](#) **51** (2): 205–15. doi:10.1046/j.1365-2265.1999.00763.x [PMID 10468992](#).
 - [^](#) Mostaghimi J · Obermeyer WH· Ballamudi R· Martinez-Gonzalez D· Benca RM (September 2005) "Effects of sleep deprivation on w

Write down the name of the website:

Could you use this source in your paper?

Part 3: Create a Citation in EasyBib

Choose one of the sources you found and create a citation for it in EasyBib:

1. Under the name of your project, click on "Bibliography"
2. Make sure you are in the "Website" tab
3. Select "Manual Entry"
4. Enter as much information as you can about the webpage
5. Click "Create Citation" when you are done entering your information

Part 4: Generating Search Terms

Based on what you've learned about your topic, write down several keywords about your topic. You will use these to search for websites, articles and other resources: