



University of East Anglia

Information Skills

Designing a systematic literature search

A literature search is **a detailed, organised, step-by-step search for all the relevant material** available on a topic
(definition adapted from George Mason University)

What are the key issues or concepts you've decided to focus on?

Concept 1	<i>and</i>	Concept 2	<i>and</i>	Concept 3
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What parameters have you put in place to narrow these down?

Parameter 1	<i>and</i>	Parameter 2	<i>and</i>	Parameter 3
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How might other researchers describe your concepts?

- Think about synonyms for your keywords, e.g. *child – schoolchild – minor – pre-teen*
- Consider specialist terminology, e.g. 'renal' instead of 'kidney'
- Don't forget variant spellings, e.g. globalisation vs. globalization

Concept 1	<i>or</i>	Synonym/variant spelling	<i>or</i>	Synonym/variant spelling
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and

Concept 2	<i>or</i>	Synonym/variant spelling	<i>or</i>	Synonym/variant spelling
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and

Parameter	<i>or</i>	Synonym/variant spelling	<i>or</i>	Synonym/variant spelling
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