

Social Bookmarking as a Research Tool

One of the best ways for your research group to begin collecting and organizing information on the topic we are studying in class is to use a social bookmarking tool called Diigo (www.diigo.com). After your teacher creates student accounts for everyone in your class and introduces you to the basics of Diigo, use the following checklist to organize the work of your group.

1. Has your group brainstormed a list of common tags (keywords to organize your websites) that you will use when bookmarking websites for your research project? Does every group member have a copy of this tag list?

Your Response / Next Steps:

2. Does your group have an Original Thinker who will bookmark at least twenty websites connected to your topic of study?

Your Response / Next Steps:

3. Does your group have a Connector who will identify and bookmark resources on secondary topics? (Example: *Life expectancy is a secondary topic for poverty.*)

Your Response / Next Steps:

4. Does your group have a Johnny Opposite who will ensure that the links you are collecting represent both sides of controversial topics?

Your Response / Next Steps:

5. Does your group have a Reliability Cop who will rate the overall value of every web resource bookmarked based on how trustworthy it appears to be?

Your Response / Next Steps:

6. Does your group have a Mind Reader who will dig through the Diigo bookmark lists (www.diigo.com/list/home) searching for sites that may be useful in your research project?

Your Response / Next Steps:

7. Does your group have a Cleaning Crew who will ensure that every link in your shared collection has tags and short descriptions?

Your Response / Next Steps:

8. Has your group worked out a plan for communicating during your initial efforts to identify and bookmark sites for your research project?

Your Response / Next Steps:

9. Will you use the Topic option in Diigo? If so, has a new strand been posted already?

Your Response / Next Steps:

10. Has your group set a starting date and an ending date for researching that everyone can agree to?

Your Response / Next Steps: