

Pathfinders — Dos and Don'ts

1. Know your target audience
[This should be fairly easy as it is probably one class or year group]
2. Consult with the teacher to see what the students already know and what they want to achieve from the topic they've set for their students
3. Think about how to structure the pathfinder to best enable the specific student group to come to grips with the topic
Possible structure is:
 - Definition/Introduction (typical vocabulary or structure of the topic; catalogue headings, Dewey numbers)**
 - Print resources (reference, specific titles, journals)**
 - Electronic resources (CD-ROMs, websites, audio, video, DVD)**
4. Draw up the pathfinder and trial it with staff/students if possible
5. Keep notes on its success and what may need adapting next time the topic comes up
6. Decide how you will put it onto the school intranet/internet website **

** At the very simplest, you can put up a Word document or convert it to html

7. **Don't** try to include everything that is available:
 - students need to do some of their own investigative work
 - and a huge list of items may overwhelm them

Reference

Pathfinders [CMIS]

www.eddept.wa.edu.au/cmisis/eval/curriculum/pathfinders