

GETTING GRAPHIC: Information Literacy and Infographics

Or, How Students can Learn Information Literacy Skills through the Creation of Infographics

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**Information
+ Graphics
= Infographics**

“Designing and illustrating information graphics is a multidisciplinary effort. It’s a renaissance skill requiring the ability to research, synthesize, interpret, and create. It’s become a mandatory metaphor for comprehending the world we live in” (Harbison, 1995).

Benefits of Creating an Infographic

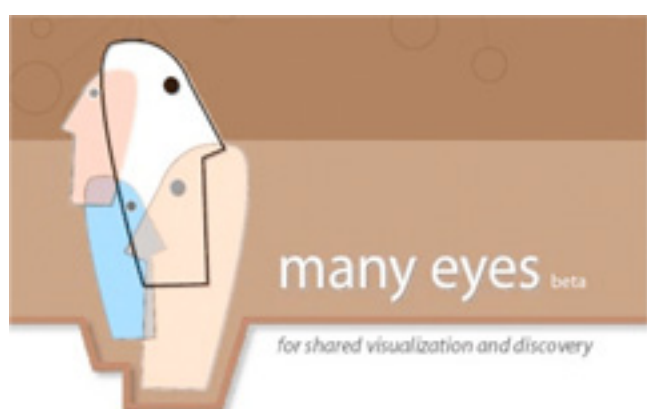
Develops multiple skills

- Information literacy
- Visual and media literacies
- Graphic design
- Writing and editing
- Technological application
- Critical thinking

Not another research paper

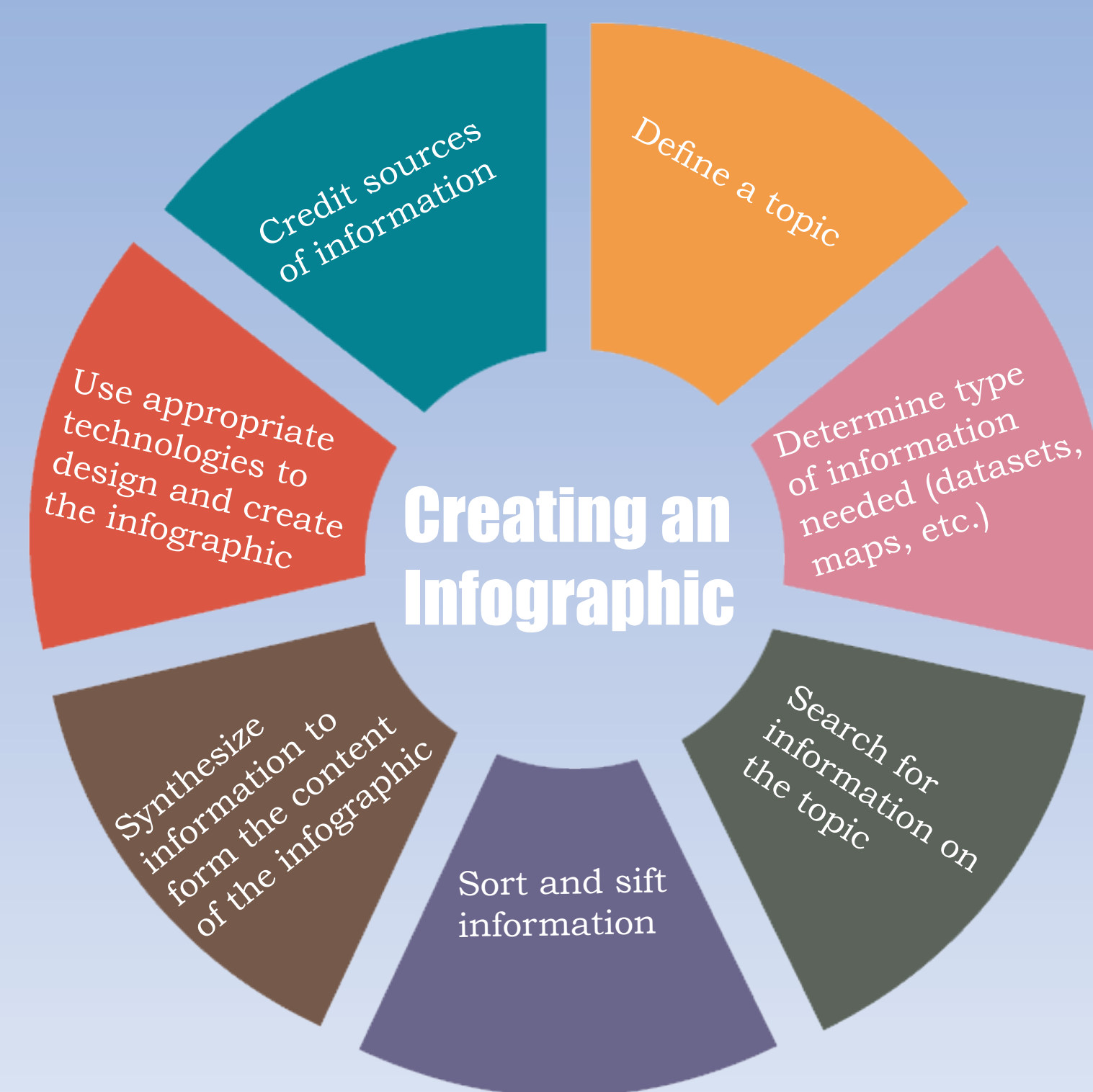
- Can be created collaboratively
- Engages multiple types of learners
- Succinctly conveys a topic
- Easily shared with others

Selected Tools



Tagxedo

Infographics and Information Literacy Standards*



- Standard 1.1: The information literate student defines and articulates the need for information.
- Standard 1.2: The information literate student identifies a variety of types and formats of potential sources.
- Standard 2: The information literate student accesses needed information effectively and efficiently.
- Standard 3.1: The information literate student summarizes the main ideas to be extracted from the information gathered.
- Standard 3.3: The information literate student synthesizes main ideas to construct new concepts.
- Standard 4.3: The information literate student communicates the product or performance effectively to others.
- Standard 5.3: The information literate student acknowledges the use of information sources in communicating the product or performance.

*Association of College and Research Libraries. (2000). Information literacy competency standards for higher education. Retrieved from <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/informationliteracycompetency.cfm>

Resources

- Byrne, R. (2011). Picture this. *School Library Journal*, 57(6), 15.
Harbison, D. (1995). Infographics: A world in pictures. *Computer Artist*, 4(4), 36.
Troutner, J. (2010). Infographics defined. *Teacher Librarian*, 38(2), 44-47.
Troutner, J. (2011). Be creative with info-graphics. *Teacher Librarian*, 38(3), 48-50.
Wisniewski, J., & Fichter, D. (2007). Saying it visually. *Online*, 31(6), 57-60.

