Child Development
Library Research Activity

Name(s) _____________________________________________ Date ______________

You may work alone, or with a partner, to answer the following questions. If you can’t answer a question, don’t panic. This activity is designed to help you hone your research skills in the library, as well as to introduce you to valuable resources on campus. If you need additional assistance, ask for help.

1. Using the college’s databases, find the peer reviewed article that presents a research study on the development of imitation skills in infants between 12 and 24 months of age authored by Young, Rogers, Rozga, Ozonoff, Hutman & Sigman and published in Developmental Psychology, Nov 2011.
   a. What is the name of this article? ____________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   b. Looking at the article’s abstract allows you to quickly read what an article is about and determine if it is of interest to you. How did you find this article’s abstract?
   ________________________________________________________________
   c. What words in this abstract help you determine that it is a research study? ______
   ________________________________________________________________
   d. Briefly write down what this article’s abstract says ____________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   e. Open this article. Is it available as HTML full text or PDF full text?
   ________________________________________________________________

2. Using the handout/document “Periodicals: Scholarly, Popular or Trade”, answer the following questions.
   a. How can you tell that this article is from a reputable source and would be acceptable to your instructor if used for a class assignment? List 3 reasons why this article would be considered a good resource.
      1. ________________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
      2. ________________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
      3. ________________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
b. One of your class assignments is to review a “peer reviewed” research article on a topic of your choice. What does “peer reviewed article” mean? ____________________________________________________________

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c. Would GOOGLE (or other search engine) be helpful in finding a “peer reviewed” article? ____________________________________________________________
Why or why not? ____________________________________________________________

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d. What are two differences between a scholarly article and a trade publication article?
1. ____________________________________________________________

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2. ____________________________________________________________

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3. If you were interested in how young children interact with each other in school settings or social situations, what words or keywords would you use to find an article about this topic using one of the college’s databases? ____________________________________________________________

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a. What additional search terms could you add to your keywords to help you find an article that is a research study? ____________________________________________________________

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b. What are subject terms or descriptors (DE)? ____________________________________________________________

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c. Where can you find the subject terms for a database article? ____________________________________________________________

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d. What is the difference between keywords and subjects or descriptors?
Subjects or descriptors are ____________________________________________________________

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Keywords are ____________________________________________________________

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