



## Year 4

# Effective Searching

### Key Learning

- To understand what a search engine is, how it works and how to use simple keywords to find information online.
- To understand how search engines collect, sort and rank results, and why some results appear first.
- To learn advanced ways to improve searches so we can find the most accurate and useful results quickly.
- To develop strategies to judge whether information online is true and if sources can be trusted.

### Key Resources



2Publish

### Key Vocabulary

#### Crawl

How a search engine explores the web to find pages.

#### Exact Match

Search results that contain the exact words you typed (often in quotes).

#### Fake News

False or misleading information made to look like real news or fact.

#### Filter

A tool that lets you narrow search results by type or date.

#### Index

The search engine's database of all the pages it has found.

#### Internet

A global network of computers that share information from one device to another, anywhere in the world.

#### Keywords

The most important words you type into a search engine to find information quickly.

#### Rank

How a search engine orders results.

#### Refine

To improve a search to get better results.

#### Relevance

How closely a result matches your search.

#### Reliable Source

A trustworthy place to get information.

#### Search Bar

The box where you type what you want to find out on a search engine.

#### Search Engine

A website that helps us find information on the internet such as Google or Kiddle.

#### Snippet

The short description found under each search result.

#### Virtual Assistant Device

A computer program (software) that listens to your voice and answers questions or does tasks, like Alexa or Siri.

#### Website

A collection of connected pages on the internet about a topic or a place.



### Key Images



Search



Filter



Filter



Voice Search

### Key Questions

#### What is a search engine?

A search engine is a website or program that helps you find information on the internet. It looks through its database of web pages, finds matches to your keywords, and shows results in order of usefulness and reliability. Examples include Google, Bing, and Kiddle.

#### How can using keywords help you find better search results?

Keywords are short, specific words that tell the search engine exactly what you want. Using them instead of full sentences gives faster, more accurate, and more relevant results.

#### What are some ways to make your searches more accurate?

You can refine your searches by using quotation marks to find exact phrases, minus signs to remove unwanted results, and filters to narrow by type or date. Checking snippets before clicking helps choose the most useful links, and combining these techniques can quickly improve the quality of your results. Practising these skills makes you more efficient online.

#### How can you check if online information is trustworthy?

To check if information is reliable, first see who created it and whether they are a trusted source. Look at the date to make sure it's current and compare with other reputable sites. Ask if the content seems believable and whether the images or claims could be fake. Taking these steps helps avoid being misled.