
Make a Paper Database

Aims:

- ✓ To understand the structure of a simple database
- ✓ Demonstrate how a large set of records can be searched by keywords to form a smaller subset of records.

Instructions:

In addition to this sheet, you will require a knitting needle, or similar.

Print out copies of the *database template* (below), so that pupils in the class have one or more database record cards.

Agree on a subject for the database, such as favourite books.

Agree a category for the fields, eg genre, then select values for the fields:

Example: **Category = genre**

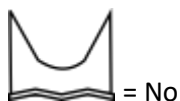
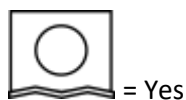
Field 1 : Adventure

Field 2 : Fairy Tale

Field 3 : Poetry

There are 8 fields, so feel free to choose multiple categories, eg Field 1 – 3 could be genre, but 4 – 8 could be author, or rating.

When the records have been completed by the pupils and cut out of the main A4 sheet, cut the top of each field so that it matches the following pattern:











When all the records are put together, slide the knitting needle through a field to select all the records of that type, for example: to select all the Adventure books, slide the needle through Field 1. Only the Adventure books (with the hole) will hang on the needle. Records with a slot will be left behind.

In this way, you can demonstrate how a large set of records can be searched by keywords to form a smaller subset of records.









By repeating the search of the subset, you can demonstrate searching multiple keywords (AND), such as Adventures with a 4* rating.

By using two needles, you can demonstrate OR searches: Adventures OR Fairy Tales.

	Field 1
	Field 2
	Field 3
	Field 4
	Field 5
	Field 6
	Field 7
	Field 8









Description

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	Field 1
	Field 2
	Field 3
	Field 4
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