Online Safety: Super Searchers

Aim:	**Success Criteria:**	**Resources:**
Use search technologies effectively, appreciate how results are selected and ranked, and be discerning in evaluating digital content in the context of using search engines accurately. I can use a search engine accurately.	I can access a trusted search engine. I can use strategies which improve my results when searching online. I can choose an appropriate number of words to include in my searches.	**Lesson Pack** Laptops or desktop computers with Internet access (per pair) Interactive whiteboard
	Key/New Words: Online, cyberbullying, e-Safety, search engine, keywords, synonyms, results.	**Preparation:** Choose an appropriate and familiar search engine for children to use. **Search Engine Hunters Activity Sheet** – per pair **Search Engine Questions Cards** – one set per pair, pre-cut

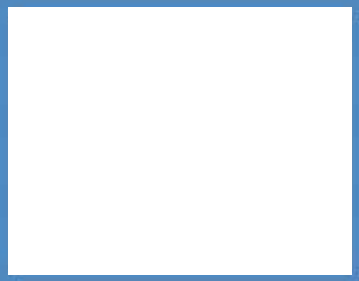
Prior Learning:	Children should be familiar with online searches and a variety of search engines from previous research-based lessons. It will be helpful if children are familiar with 'synonyms' as a grammatical term.

Learning Sequence

	Search Engines: Ask the class what a search engine is. Discuss which ones they use the most and when they would use them.	
	How Do Search Engines Work? Explain that search engines search the Internet, using the words you type in. Ensure that the children are aware of some of the factors which affect the ranked result, including paid-for advertisements.	
	Search Engine Hunters: Using laptops and the **Search Engine Questions Cards**, children complete the **Search Engine Hunters Activity Sheet** in mixed-ability pairs. Model each step using your chosen search engine so that children know where to find the answers, including to step 2, and know not to click on advertisements, etc.	
	Now Try... Guide the children through the bottom section of the **Search Engine Hunters Activity Sheet**, using the example of searching for 'the world's most visited city' (you may need to discuss synonyms). Explain that when we use inverted commas, the search engine will then only search for those words in that exact order. Discuss what difference the strategies that the children have used made to their search accuracy. Which one worked best?	

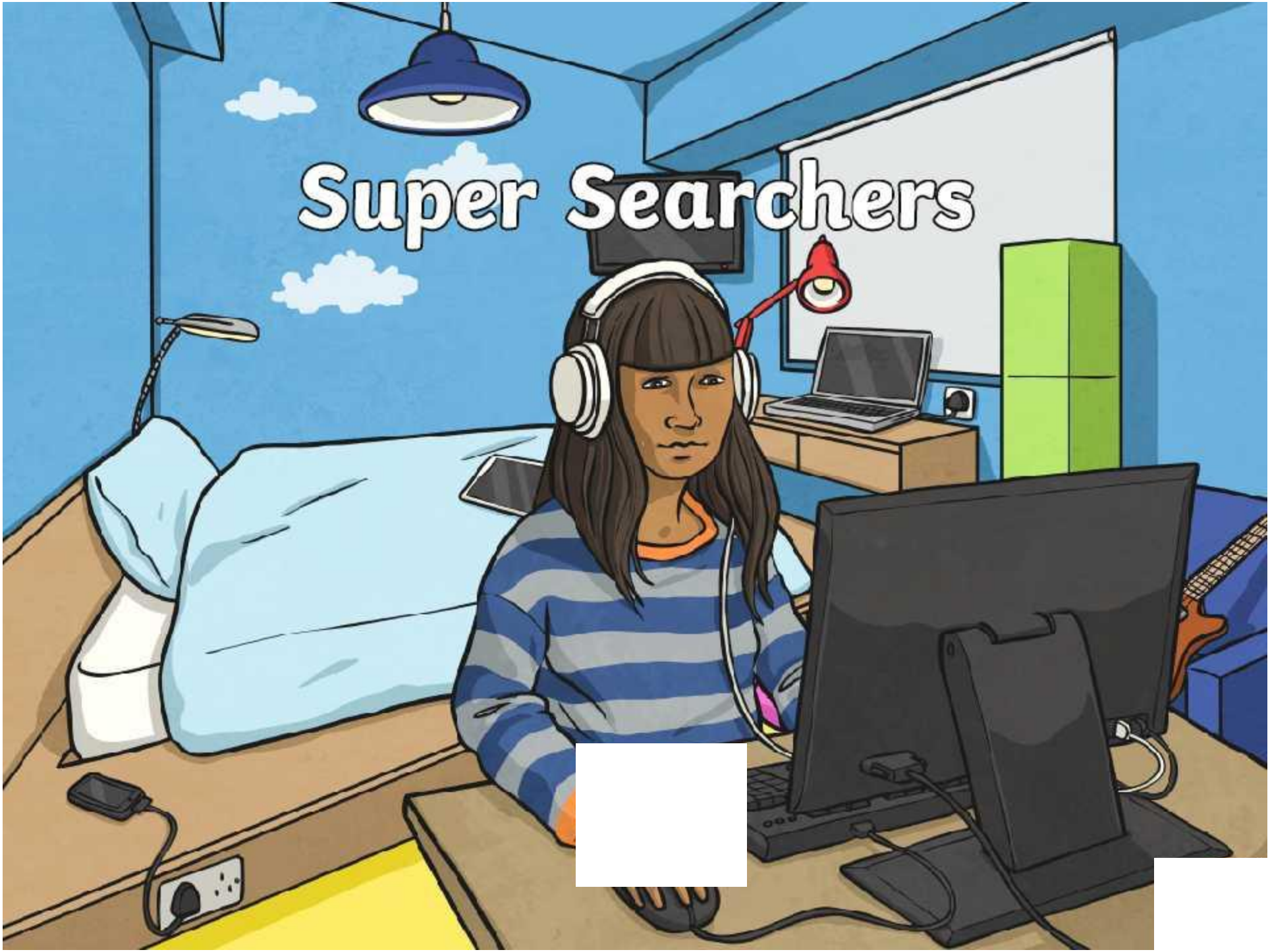
Taskit

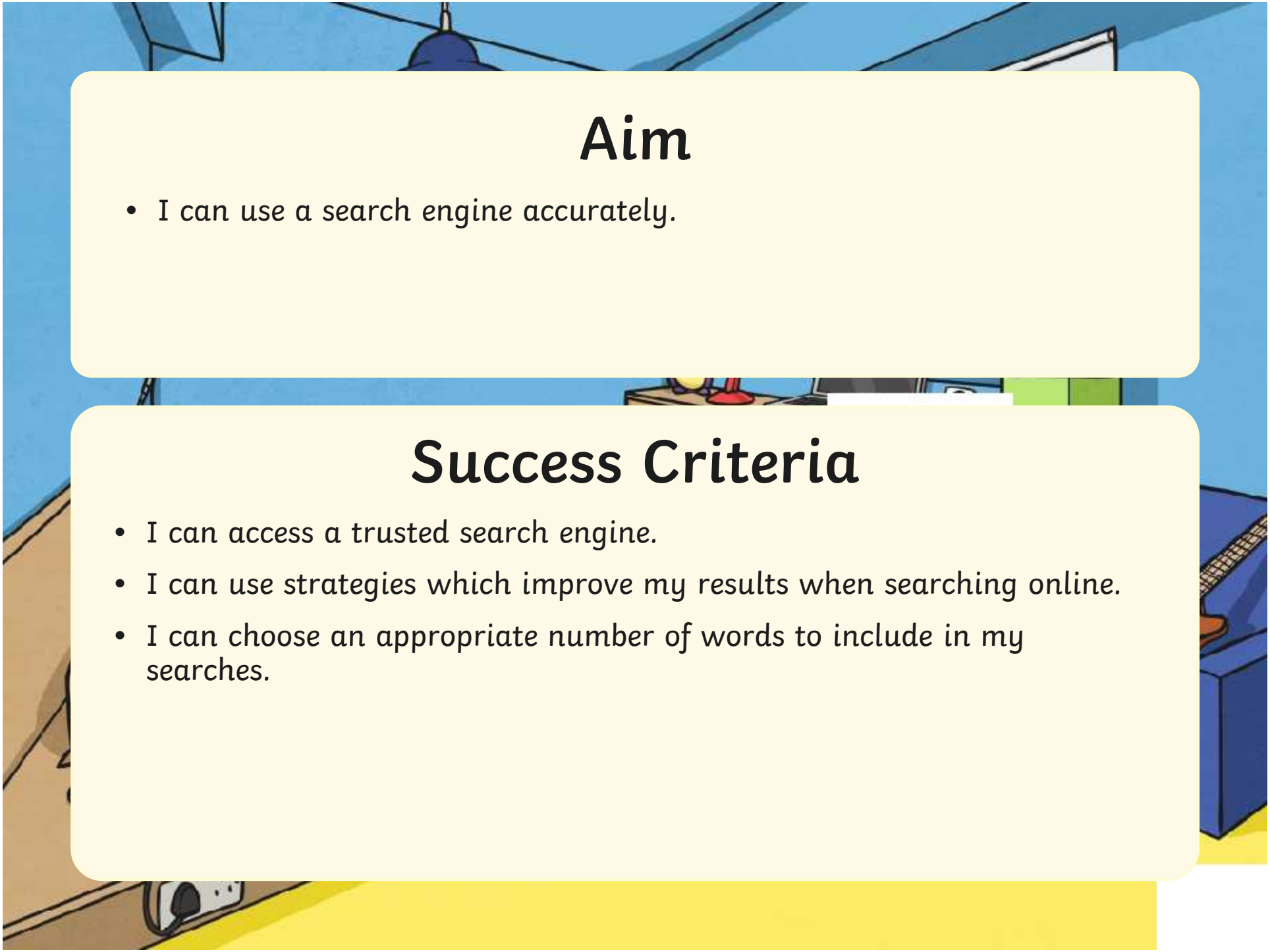
Investigateit: Can children try to answer a question using only a one-word search, then count the number of 'clicks' it takes for them to get to the answer?



Computing

Online Safety


Super Searchers



Aim

- I can use a search engine accurately.

Success Criteria

- I can access a trusted search engine.
- I can use strategies which improve my results when searching online.
- I can choose an appropriate number of words to include in my searches.

Search Engines

What is a **search engine**?

How do search engines work?

How Do Search Engines Work?

A search engine searches the internet for you, using the words you type in and the order you type them in too.

They give you results in a ranked order, which means that the results at the top of the page are the ones that the search engine thinks will be the most useful to you.

How Do Search Engines Work?

Search engines use amazing algorithms to help give you the most useful results first; they look at the order of the words you've written and which words are together.

How Do Search Engines Work?

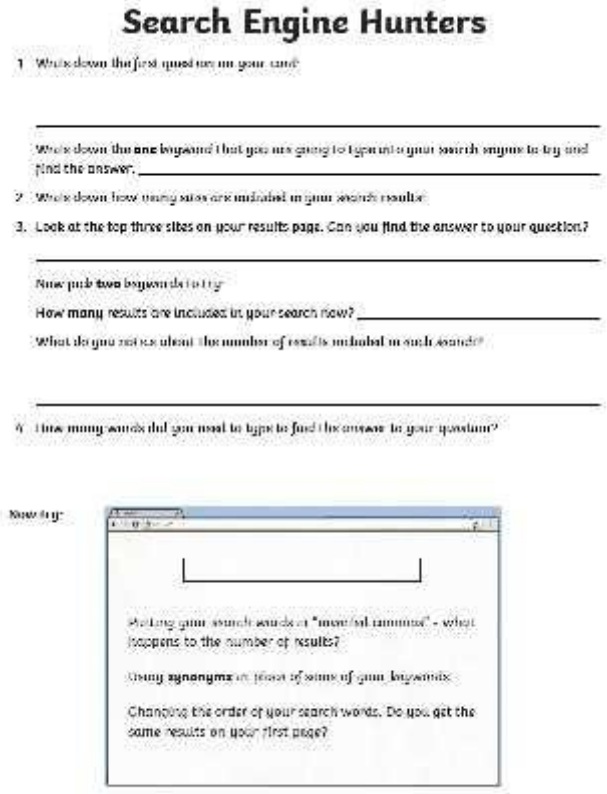
They also find webpages which include **synonyms** of the words you've written; for example, if you search for 'cakes', the search engine may show you pages including buns, muffins or cupcakes too.

It is important to remember that some companies will pay the search engine to make sure that their results show at the top of the screen.

Search Engine Hunters

You are going to be given questions to find out the answers to.

Follow the steps on the **Search Engine Hunters Activity Sheet**.



Search Engine Hunters

1 Write down the first question on your card:

_____

Write down the **one keyword** that you are going to type into your search engine to try and find the answer: _____

2 Write down how many sites are included in your search results:

3. Look at the top three sites on your results page. Can you find the answer to your question?

_____

Now pick **two** keywords to try:

How many results are included in your search now? _____

What do you notice about the number of results included in each search?

_____

4 How many words did you need to type to find the answer to your question?

Now try:

Putting your search words in "inverted commas" - what happens to the number of results?

Using **synonyms** in place of some of your keywords.

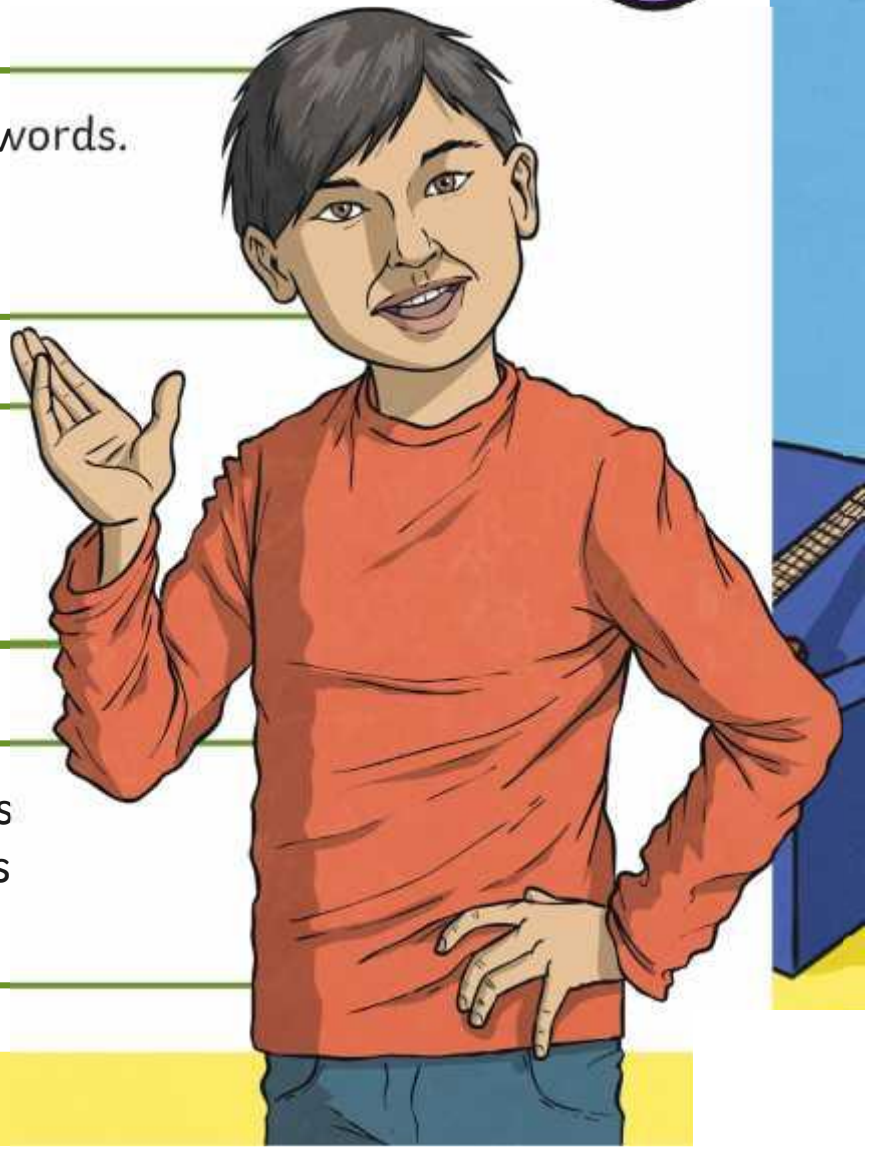
Changing the order of your search words. Do you get the same results on your first page?

Search Engine Hunters

4. Now, repeat these steps using two keywords. If you can't find the answers to your question, try three words, etc.

5. Write how many words you had to type in before you got the answer you needed.

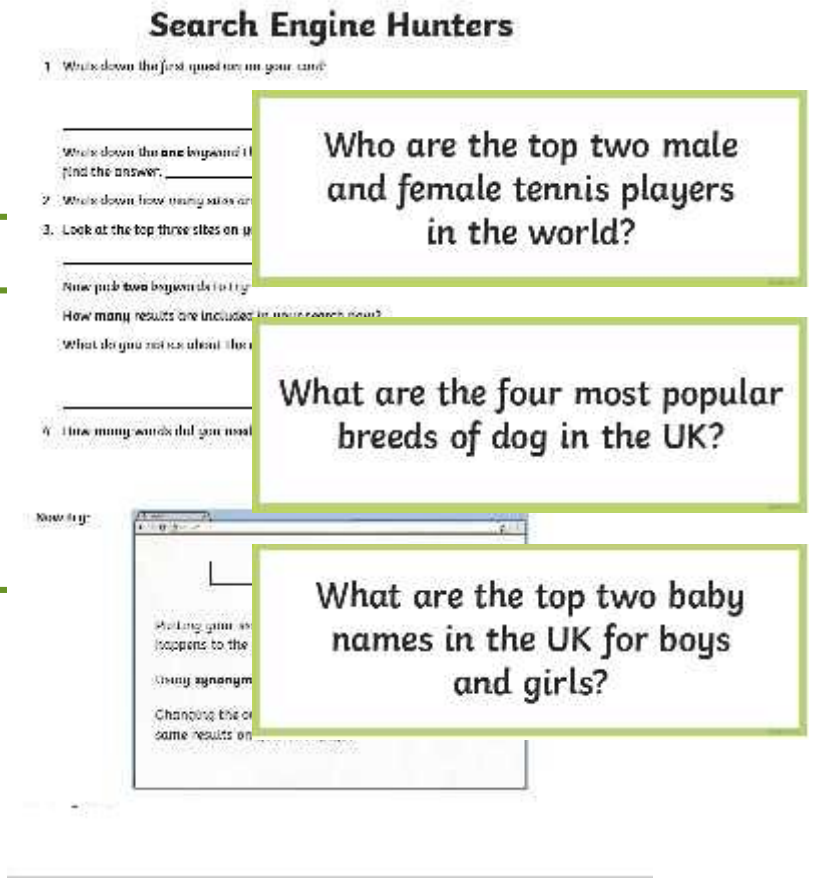
3. View the top three sites on your results page to see if you can find the answers to your question.



Search Engine Hunters

Use our chosen search engine and avoid clicking on adverts... and don't cheat!

Remember, we are trying to find out the minimum number of words we need to type in to get accurate results.



Now Try...

Use a **synonym** (let's think of one together!). Does anything change?

What happens if we put inverted commas ' ' around the words?

Change the order of the words and search again: what changes?

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				Delivered By:			**Support:**		
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Next Steps

- _____
- _____

T	Teacher	**I**	Independent
PPA	Planning, Preparation and Assessment	**AL**	Adult Led
S	Supply	**GP**	Guided Practice

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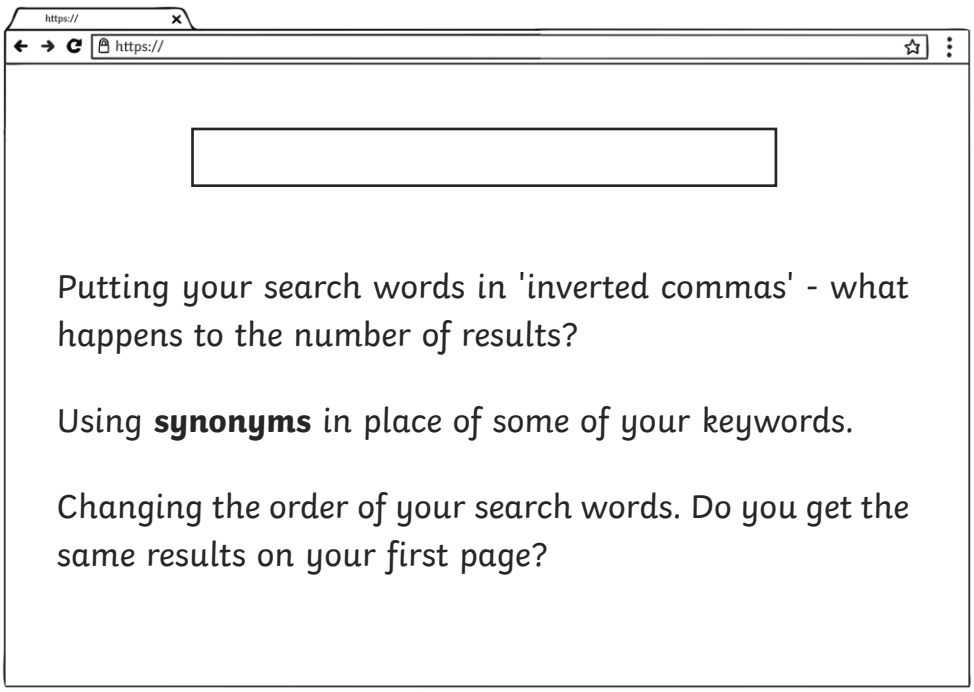

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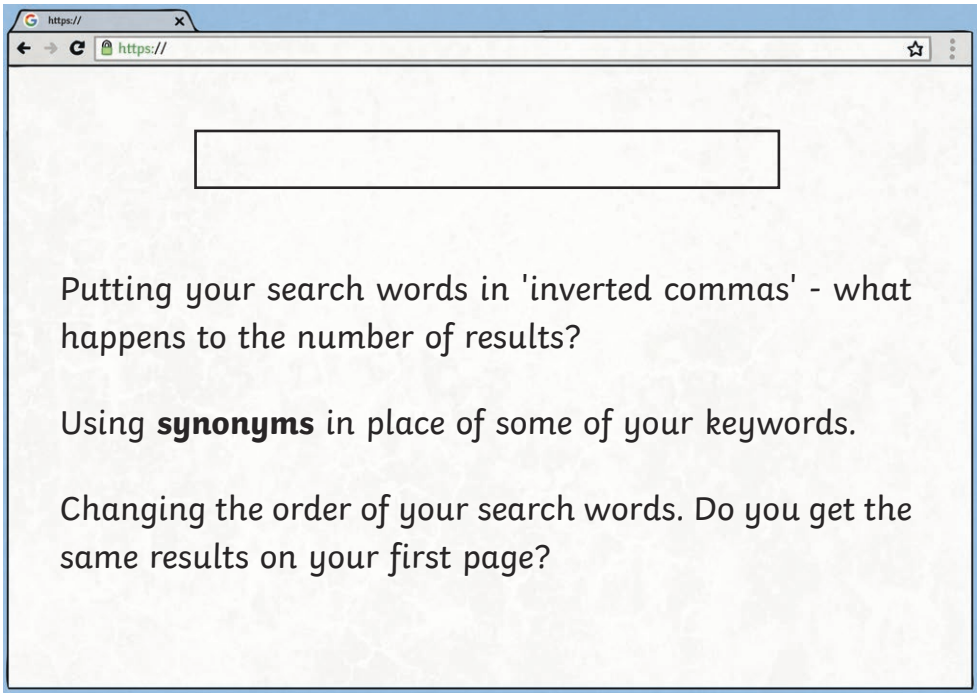

Who are the top two male and female tennis players in the world?

What are the four most popular breeds of dog in the UK?

What are the top two baby names in the UK for boys and girls?

What are the four most popular holiday destinations for Americans?

What are the four fastest land animals?

What are the four biggest cities in New Zealand?

What are the most popular pets in Australia? Find the top four.

What are the top selling car models in the UK? List the top four.

What are the four smallest breeds of dog?

Which cities in the world have the largest populations? Find the top four.

What are the four tallest buildings in the world?

What are the four tallest mountains in the world?

Which films have made the most money? Find the top four.

What are the four longest words in the English language?

What are the four fastest fish or sea creatures in the world?

What are the four most commonly spoken languages in the world?

Avery Template: Name Badge Label, 8 per sheet | **Compatible Products**: 15395, 25395, 42395, 45395, 48395, 5395, 8395, 88395, 85395.

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