

LESSON 4 GOOGLE RESEARCH & FAVORITE WEBSITES - SKILL SHEET
(CHECK OFF EACH SKILL AS YOU COMPLETE)

FOUR TOPICS:

1. GOOGLE/WILDCARDS, MESAFSL.ORG AND LDS.ORG
2. REVIEW: FAMILYSEARCH.ORG
3. REVIEW: FINDAGRAVE.COM
4. REVIEW: ANCESTRY.COM

RESEARCH GOOGLE USING WILDCARDS - Use wildcards when searching in Google such as: quote marks “around the name you are researching”, using an asterisk * as a substitute for letters in names, or adding a plus (+) after the name and a year, city, state, etc. Record your favorite websites.

REVIEW: FAMILYSEARCH.ORG –Always ‘Check Duplicates’ by merging the various versions of the same ancestor. Remember, **DO NOT DELETE A PERSON** . . . correct mistakes and use “Edit Relationship” to make changes. Use the “Search Record” and “Record Hints” feature to add sources to your ancestors. Continue to verify the accuracy of your research. Once the information is verified, follow the prompts in attaching the source to your tree. Keep a research log to avoid duplicating your work effort. Take advantage of the ‘Descendancy View’, which offers tips as well as sources.

Questions? Use **Family Tree Training Lessons and Videos** on FamilySearch.org. (Get Help>Learning Center>Family Tree Lessons and Training Videos)

<https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/lesson/family-tree-training-lessons-and-videos/818>

REVIEW: ANCESTRY.COM – Always view original documents when possible. Check the “header” information on the census, categories of each column, the names below your ancestor’s and **ALL** pages of the census record. Look for their other family members living nearby in the same county. Follow the sidebar in Ancestry for possible additional sources you can match to your ancestor. Connect the documents you find to your FamilySearch Tree using ‘**Tree Connect**’ or if you have a tree on Ancestry it will give an option to link directly to FamilySearch. When searching immigration lists, look for the male name; often spouse and children were not recorded. Become familiar with the ‘Card Catalog.’

REVIEW: FIND A GRAVE.COM – Do a basic search: first/last name, death year, county/state. If too many choices appear, put in more information, if no information is found, search again with less. Sometimes less is better! Take advantage of links in side bar. Best to ask permission to use photos. Pay close attention to obituaries and stories, they contain vital clues. Check information carefully with your family tree. Document and source using ‘**Tree Connect**.’

Keep updated by checking the blogs on these major databases.