Developing a Research Question

The key to coming up with a research question is to avoid choosing a topic that is too general.

- **Broad Topic**: Mental Illness
- **More Specific Topic**: PTSD
- **Even More Specific Topic**: PTSD and children

Getting Specific

A helpful way to add some focus to your topic is to think about the who, what, where and when associated with your topic.

Here’s an example using the topic “video games”

- **When/Time?**: Last ten years (2002 – 2012)
- **Where/Place?**: U.S.A.
- **What/Event?**: violence
- **Who/Person?**: children

**Topic:** Video games

**Research question**: Are children who play video games more likely to be violent?
Your turn. Enter your topic and determine the who, what, where, and when details you would like to explore.

Write at least 2 possible research questions here:

1. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________