Learning Outcome: Students will use Boolean Operators (or "keyword connectors") in database searching in order to find relevant resources for their research topics.
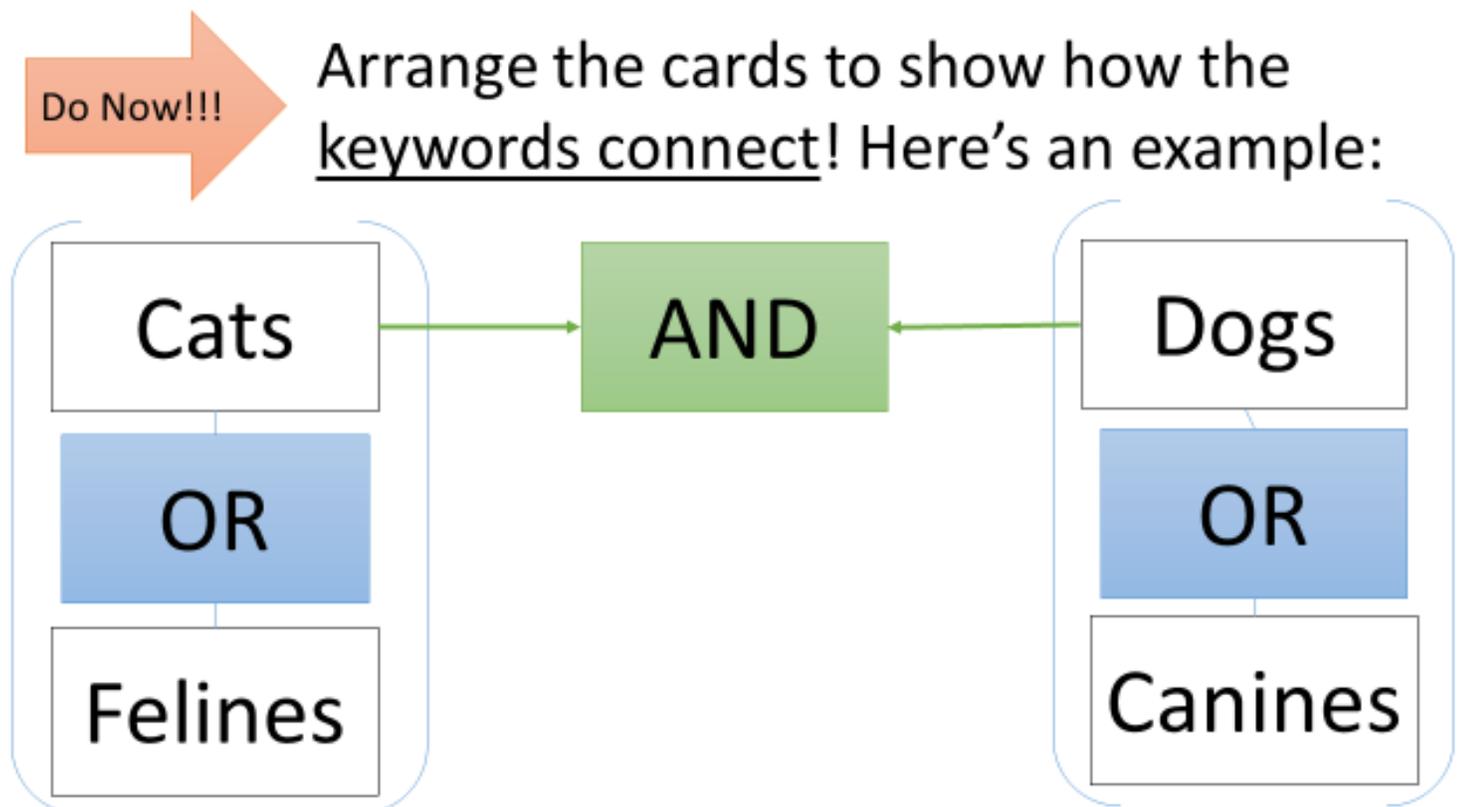
ACRL Information Literacy Standard: 1. The information literate student defines and articulates the need for information. Outcome: The student knows how information is formally and informally produced, organized, and disseminated.
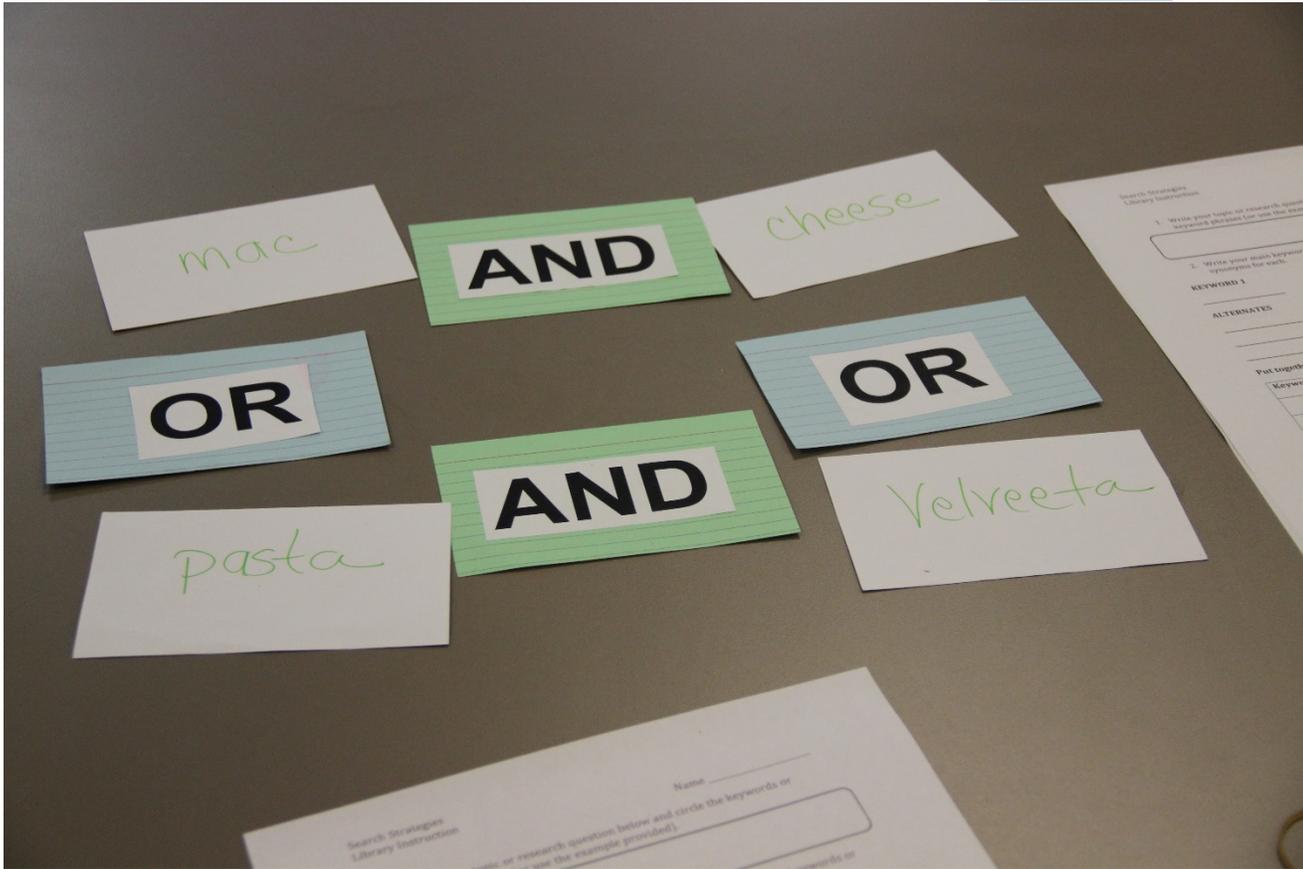
ACRL Information Literacy Framework Concept: Searching as strategic exploration. The student determines the initial scope of the task required to meet their information needs; understands how information systems are organized in order to access relevant information.

Activity:

Each table receives a deck of cards to sort using the appropriate Boolean Operators. I use this activity at the beginning of class when students are getting settled. This works well because students have something "to do" right away, which signals to them that they will be actively learning throughout the class. I then refer back to it when we get to the topic later during class. It could also be used at any point during class.

The PowerPoint slide below displays the directions that the student see.

Do Now!!!

Arrange the cards to show how the keywords connect! Here's an example:

Cats — AND — Dogs

Cats / OR / Felines

Dogs / OR / Canines

Boolean Table Game in action

Boolean Table Game
Cut and paste to index cards, or create your own topics!

Lucinda Rush, lrush@odu.edu, 2017

# AND	# AND
# AND	# AND
# AND	# AND
# OR	# OR
# OR	# OR
# OR	# OR
## PEANUT BUTTER	## PEANUT BUTTER
# JELLY	# JELLY

JAM	JAM
ALMOND BUTTER	ALMOND BUTTER
EXERCISE	EXERCISE
YOGA	YOGA
MOOD	MOOD
MENTAL HEALTH	MENTAL HEALTH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PLAY	PLAY
CHILDREN	CHILDREN

FREE TIME	FREE TIME
FACEBOOK	FACEBOOK
TWITTER	TWITTER
POLITICS	POLITICS
YOUTH	YOUTH
YOUNG ADULTS	YOUNG ADULTS
DRINKING	DRINKING
ALCOHOL USE	ALCOHOL USE
GRADES	GRADES
ACADEMIC SUCCESS	ACADEMIC SUCCESS