SEARCHING AS STRATEGIC EXPLORATION

Searching for information is often nonlinear and iterative, requiring mental flexibility to pursue alternate avenues as new understanding develops.

- Searching identifies both possible relevant sources as well as the means to access those sources.
- Information searching is a contextualized, complex experience that affects, and is affected by, the cognitive, affective, and social dimensions of the searcher.
- Search more broadly and deeply to determine the most appropriate information within the project scope.

IN PRACTICE

**FIRST** Determine the initial scope of the task required to meet their information needs.

**THEN** Identify interested parties who might produce information about a topic.

**FINALLY** Design and refine search needs and search strategies as necessary, based on search results.