Two Steps to a MLA Works Cited Entry

First, a rationale and answer to the age old question "Why oh why do I have to do this?"

Remember the readings on the importance of soft skills?

Carefully following written directions on an admittedly tedious task is part and parcel of knowledge based work – the kind of careers most of you are in college for. Another name for this ability? A soft skill.

And the ability to follow instructions has far ranging ramifications.

My wife works in a hospital lab and she regularly notes that following very specific – and admittedly tedious – directions lie at the center of accurate testing.

Accurate testing? That's what keeps you and me alive.

Granted, staying alive and correctly writing a MLA works cited entry is a stretch.

What's not a stretch is that for most of us, slowing down and paying close attention is a soft skill that needs more development.

Get ready to get developed.

Two steps to Works Cited Entries
1) Determine kind of source you're working with: for our purposes, these include
   a. Book (Delbanco)
   b. Article in a database (Menand)
   c. Article in an online newspaper or magazine (Kristoff, Kahlenberg, "What is College For?")
   d. Article/source from a website (Hart Associates)
   e. Article from a print newspaper or magazine.
   f. Single essay/story in a book (this would be called "Work In An Anthology")
2) Using either your handbook (*Little Seagull* starting on page 110) or the Perdue Owl Link, find the corresponding example and complete using the example as a reference.
   a. Specific links to Perdue OWL examples
      i. MLA Works Cited Page: Books
      ii. MLA Works Cited Page: Periodicals [Print]
      iii. MLA Works Cited Page: Electronic Sources (this means most web sources)
      iv. MLA Works Cited Page: Other Common Sources) "Citation Instructions: Perdue Owl" link in the writing resources module,
3) For a more general discussion of research and references, see the Research chapter (80+) and MLA Style (109+) in the *Little Seagull Handbook*.

And yes, you can and should download this for easy access to the links.