Why Use Documentation?

There are three reasons documentation is important in projects you compose.

It helps you acknowledge your debt to your sources.

When you use someone else's words, images, ideas, or other intellectual property, give them credit. It lets readers know that you respect the creative works that others produce.

It helps you establish credibility.

Whenever you refer to the ideas and statements of experts, you strengthen your own work. Quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing relevant arguments, data, and research shows readers that your ideas build upon the knowledge of experts on the topic.

It helps your readers find your source so they can learn more.

Your readers may want to know more about the ideas or data in your project. Your documentation tells readers where to find that information so they can explore the subject further.