An ethnography is a methodology, a way of doing things. In this case, we study the customs and everyday lives of individuals through observation. Unlike traditional research, which requires the use of libraries, computers and databases, an ethnographic research is a hands-on approach.

In "Ethnography of Literacy," Szwed writes that ethnographies can be created in two ways: through field observations or through interviews where the subjects decide what information to share. This, according to Szwed, allows us to learn more about how and why people use literacy in their everyday lives.

What might be the benefits of ethnographic research of literacy?