

Topic: Rating Websites

Essential Questions:

- How do I know if a website is good and reliable source of information?
- How do I know if a website will be useful for my research needs?

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

- Students will be able to identify a good website using the 5 components of website evaluation.
- Students will be able to identify if a website is helpful for a specified topic.

Common Core Standard:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.7  
Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

ISTE standards:

- 3a. Students plan and employ effective research strategies to locate information and other resources for their intellectual or create pursuits.
- 3b. Students evaluate the accuracy, perspective, credibility and relevance of information, media, data, or other resources.

Activity 1:

- I will remind students of their previous lesson with Ms. Patterson about the 5 components of Website Evaluation.
- First, I will have students do a Think, Pair, Share active participation strategy to talk about what they remember about the components.
- Then, we will do a whole group tree map that reviews the meaning of each of the words.
  - Authority: Who is responsible for the site? Does the information come from a credible source?
  - Currency: Is the site up to date?
  - Purpose: Why is the site on the internet? What information does it provide?
  - Audience: Who did they create this website for?
  - Structure: Is the website easy to use?

Activity 2:

- I will show students an example of a good website ([www.kidsplanet.org/](http://www.kidsplanet.org/)). I will browse the website to familiarize students with the website.
- Students will work in table groups to discuss what makes the website a good site for information. They will create a tree map similar to the one I created and add information based on the posted website ([www.kidsplanet.org/](http://www.kidsplanet.org/)).

- We will share the information as a whole group. I will use dice as an active participation strategy to get students more engaged in conversation.

### Activity 3:

- I will tell students that they can use the information learned to find useful websites when they conduct their own research.
- Another thing they have to think about is making sure the information they find on a website is useful for their purpose.
- I will provide students with the following scenario:
  - Your teacher asked you to do a research project on the American Revolution. She tells you to go to the computer lab and find one website that can be useful for your project. You find the following websites. Your job is to decide whether the websites are good and relevant for your research.
  - [http://www.ducksters.com/history/american\\_revolution.php](http://www.ducksters.com/history/american_revolution.php) (yes)
  - <https://kidskonnnect.com/history/american-revolution/> (No because there is not enough information)
- This website will be used as a *Ticket out the Door* assessment activity. Students will answer the following question on a Post-it note:
  - Would you use this website to do your research? Justify your reasoning. (Hint: Use the 5 components of website evaluations)
  - [http://www.kidinfo.com/american\\_history/american\\_revolution.html](http://www.kidinfo.com/american_history/american_revolution.html) (yes)