

# Evaluating Internet Sites



Address of the site (sometimes called URL or Uniform Resource Locator):

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(Notice that an address that ends in **.com** is a commercial site and has usually been created to support a business or commercial organization.)

**Who is this site designed for?**

- Students                       Teachers                       Consumers  
 Researchers                       General Public                       Special Interest Group

Themes or keywords you used to get to this site:

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Did you get pop-up advertisements on this site?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do any of these pop-up ads contain material your parents would object to you seeing?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Visit the HOME page of this site or the ABOUT US page to obtain details about the site:

Is this site sponsored by:

A group?	Name: _____
A company?	Name: _____
A government department?	Name: _____
A school or educational group?	Name: _____
Another organization?	Name: _____
An individual?	Name: _____

*Tip: Be cautious with websites that do not contain information about their purpose or goal. Keep in mind that any person or group who wishes to convey a message to other people can create a website. Also, remember that websites may be misleading and may contain errors. If the website is a student project, remember that it too may contain mistakes.*

Purpose, goal, or mission stated by this website on its home page:

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If the goal or purpose is not stated, for what purpose do *you* think this site exists?

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Scroll to the bottom of the page. Is there a date or "last updated"? Record the date.

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Does the information on this site confirm information from another reliable print or electronic source? \_\_\_\_\_

Does this site list sources it has consulted? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Does this site seem to contain mostly facts or mostly opinions? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Hint: Ask yourself, is this provable? Is there evidence to support it?)

Is it easy to find things on this site (navigate)? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Does the site contain a lot of spelling errors? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Does the site provide links to other information sources? Were these links up to date?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did this site try to sell you anything? Give details.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Did this site include pop-up messages designed to convince you of a certain point of view?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Describe:

\_\_\_\_\_

Did this site contain any statements that express hatred or prejudice toward certain groups or individuals? (Note: This is illegal. Provide the website to your teacher so that it can be reported.) Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Describe:

\_\_\_\_\_

What date did you visit this site? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you recommend this site to another student? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sources:

Media Awareness Network, Web Awareness Canada (Comprehensive information on web awareness for parents and teachers):

<[http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/special\\_initiatives/web\\_awareness/](http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/special_initiatives/web_awareness/)>

Media Awareness Network, Games for Kids, Overview (Web awareness activities for young students):

<[http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/special\\_initiatives/games/index.cfm](http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/special_initiatives/games/index.cfm)>