

# Researching Online

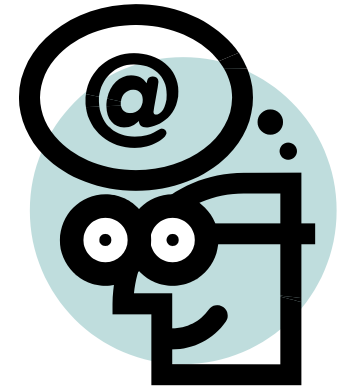
Thinking about what you see



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# Books vs Internet

- ▶ Books, Magazines, Encyclopedias careful about what they publish (both online and in hard copy)
  - Difficult process
  - Fact checking
- ▶ On the Internet anyone can publish anything, anytime.
  - Sometimes can't trust the information



# So what do we do?

- ▶ Like going to the grocery store
  - Separate the junk food from the healthy food
- ▶ Need to be good thinkers
  - Find trusted author or organization
  - Ask yourself questions
  - Don't just accept what you see
  - Check your facts

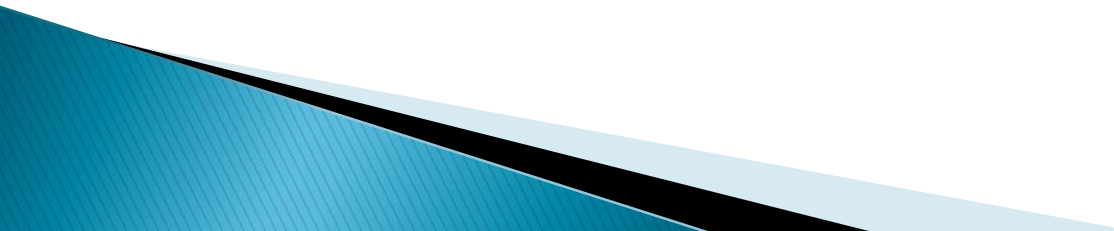


# To be a good editor...Ask yourself

- ▶ Who is the Author?
  - Is author's name on site?
  - Have you heard of organization?
  - Is it Personal page?
  - What is Domain?
    - Government sites gov, .mil, .us
    - Educational sites .edu
    - Nonprofit site .org
    - Commercial site .com

# Ask yourself:

Is the content good?

- Is it useful, covering all or part of what I need?
  - Do I understand the information?
  - Is spelling and grammar correct?
  - Is it accurate? Can I verify it elsewhere?
- 

# Let's look at these sites



The Tree Octopus

<http://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/>

All About Explorers

<http://allaboutexplorers.com>

The Technology Behind Google's Great Results

[www.google.com/technology/pigeonrank.htm](http://www.google.com/technology/pigeonrank.htm)

# Some are biased

- ▶ Expresses only one opinion
- ▶ Wants to convince you of their beliefs

Websites with different points of view:

- <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/benefits-of-school-uniforms.html>
- [http://www.education.newarchaeology.com/against\\_school\\_uniforms.php](http://www.education.newarchaeology.com/against_school_uniforms.php)

# Some show both points of view:

- <http://www.debate.org/opinions/should-students-be-allowed-to-use-cell-phones-in-school>

**BIASED!**

# Advertisements

- ▶ Want to sell you something
- ▶ Sometimes hard to tell which is the ad and what are the facts

Nickleodeon

<http://www.nick.com/>






# An Author's Purpose:

- ▶ **Persuade**
  - ▶ **Inform**
  - ▶ **Entertain**
  - ▶ **Sell**
- 
- ▶ The next time you look at a website, think of the author's purpose and think of **P. I. E. S.** This will help you to evaluate the information and make a better decision about its trustworthiness and validity.

# Questioning ABC's

- ▶ **Authority** – Who is the author or publisher? Are they an authority or expert on the subject?
  - ▶ **Accuracy** – Is the information accurate, truthful?
  - ▶ **Bias** – What is the website's purpose? Are they expressing an opinion? Are both sides of the debate represented?
  - ▶ **Currency** – Is the information current, up to date? When was the site last updated?
- 

# So....are these Fact or Fiction?

Dog Island

<http://www.thedogisland.com/>

Mankato, MN

<http://descy.50megs.com/mankato/mankato.html>

# Cyberbullying

- ▶ <http://www.cyberbullying.info/>
- ▶ <http://cybersmartcurriculum.org/>

# What have you learned?

