



Why do I have to evaluate a website?

- Anyone can put anything they want on the web, whether it is true or not
- No one verifies the accuracy of the information on the web
- Someone can put information on the web and never update or remove it
- People may be promoting their own point of view, products, or brands
- Some websites are for fun; some are for research -- it is often hard to tell

The Six W's of Web Evaluation

WHO

Who is the author? Authors can be people or organizations.

Can you find more information on the author?

Is the author an expert on this subject?

WHAT

What is the purpose of this website?

Is it educational or advertising, advocacy (a cause), news, entertainment, opinion?

WHEN

When was this website created?

Has it been updated?

Look for clues as to the most current date.

WHERE

Where did the author's information come from?

Are there references?

Are there further readings?

Is it reliable?

WHY

Why should I use this website and not another resource?

WOULD

Would a print source be better?

Would an article database be better?