Website Evaluation

Who is the author or publisher? What are their qualifications? Is there editorial oversight?

What information is provided? Is it detailed and thorough? Is it presented clearly and professionally?

When was the page published? Is the information current? (no older than 3-5 years for science) Are there dead links?

Where is the page published? What institution is it tied to?

Why was the site created? Is its purpose to inform or persuade?

How can I use this source? Does it serve my purpose?

5-6 points — use it!
4-3 points — use with caution
2 and under find something else...

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Check your sources, Bears!
1. Give credit to the author for their hard work and ideas.

2. Help your readers find more information about your research.

3. Give your research more credibility—it shows you have resources to back your statements.

4. Keep from taking a failing grade or even being expelled.

5. Do the right thing!

Use the Library’s Writing Help page help cite your sources and format your research papers.

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