

Finding and Evaluating Sources

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will locate multiple sources on a research topic and evaluate them for credibility.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- internet-connected device
- notebook paper
- pen
- ruler

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Using your claim topic, search for 3 different sources of information (a news article, a government or educational website, and one other source).
2. For each source, draw a table with 4 columns: Source Name, Author/Organization, Date, and Purpose.
3. Fill in the table for all 3 sources by examining the 'About' page or byline of each site.
4. Rate each source's credibility on a scale of 1-5 based on who wrote it, when it was published, and whether it seems balanced or biased.
5. Star the single most credible source and write one sentence explaining why you trust it most.

QUESTIONS

1. Which of your 3 sources is most credible, and what is one piece of evidence you found there?

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2. What are two warning signs that a source might be unreliable?

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3. Why is the publication date of a source important for research?
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4. How does knowing an author's credentials or affiliation affect how you use their information?
