

Welcome to the CCB News: The Truth is Out There!



Concept
Learning Skills



Length
20-30 Minutes

Inquiry Prompts

- Can a site have both reliable and unreliable information on it?
- What could happen when people believe unreliable sources of information?
- What would happen if someone didn't use a reliable source of information at school? At their job?

Instructions

In this activity, students play the role of a journalism intern who is tasked with the job to research 3 possible leads for tonight's newscast. Students will use their source evaluation skills to support their ideas.

- 1 Set the scene with your students: "You are no longer students in a classroom; you are journalism interns in a fast-paced newsroom. Tonight's newscast is 5 minutes short and the team needs a story to air—fast! You've been given the job of researching 3 possible leads. Reputation is everything in this business, and airing false news will lose the show viewers and prime sponsors."
- 2 Give students copies of the [Welcome to CCB News: The Truth is Out There!](#) evaluation worksheet.
- 3 Have students research each of the leads on the worksheet, locating and evaluating sources of information to suss out the most reliable story to go with. Prompt them to circle the story they want to go with.
- 4 If you have time, ask students to pitch their leads to you.

Message for students: Wikipedia is not considered a reliable source. Anyone can edit unprotected pages. It's not cool to cite it in any kind of important research. While Wikipedia itself may not be reliable, you can always dig deeper and visit and evaluate the sources linked to a Wikipedia article.

Materials Required

- [Welcome to CCB News: The Truth is Out There! worksheet](#)
- Pencils, colored pencils, or markers
- Computers (tablets, phones) with Internet access

Artifacts

Students can add the worksheets to **Storyboard** and reflect on why having credible sources of information is important.

Welcome to CCB News!

Welcome to your first day as a CCB intern. Get ready to flex your research muscles. Your job is to check out the following three leads and find the most reliable one for tonight's newscast. Don't get tricked! Examine your sources carefully.

Story	Sources	Evaluate your Sources
An animal story is always a hit with audiences. What better story than the fight to save the endangered Pacific Northwest tree octopus?		
Signals from the start of the universe? Before TVs went digital, viewers could see leftover radiation emitted from the Big Bang in the static on their TVs.		
Forget Jurassic Park - you might be on to a bigger story. Scientists have recently uncovered the perfectly preserved scene of the biggest battle between humans and dinosaurs yet!		

Name: _____