

# Show your child how to evaluate information online

Your child has to write a report, and he wants to do research online. Take this opportunity to teach about safe and reliable ways to do research. Here's how:

1. Prepare. Find websites you trust, such as online encyclopedias for kids. Ask your child's teacher for a list of kid-friendly sites. You can also review the school's website to find recommended online resources.
2. Supervise. Sit at the computer with your child. Search for information together. As you pick resources, evaluate them carefully. Who is the author? What makes him or her trustworthy?
3. Discuss what makes a site likely to be legitimate. Is it run by a trusted source? Does it end with .gov or .edu? These indicate government or educational affiliations.
4. Look at the information on the page closely. How recently was it written or updated? Does it represent facts or opinions? Does it refer to other reputable sources?

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