

Teacher Notes:

This activity is from
Science+ Fifth Grade
Module 3 "Water: Earth's
Major Systems"

ELA Connection: LITERACY.W.5.9

Draw evidence from literary
or informational texts to
support analysis, reflection,
and research

Suggested Discussion Questions:

Think about the websites
you visit most often. Which
URL extension or domain
do most of them have?

Possible Answer: Most of
my favorite sites are .org
or .com We use a few .edu
and .gov website for school
work.

Are there certain times it is
more important to consider
the website credibility?

Possible Answer: Yes, it
depends on what I am
visiting the site for. If I
am collecting information
for a research project or
homework, I should be using
only credible sites. If I am
curious about a topic or
browsing fun websites, then
it's not as necessary..

Extension:

If you want more in depth
lessons on media skills,
check out the course called
Cyber Society by
CYBER.ORG. There is an
entire unit called
Media Literacy.



CYBER POP-OUT: Website Credibility

It is important to make sure that the information we find online is credible. What does credible mean? When we say something is credible it means that it is believable, accurate, or true.

Questions to ask yourself when viewing a new website:

1) Who's the author? Is this person or company an expert? Many times there is a section of the website that will tell you about the company or person.

2) Is the style professional? Are there grammar or spelling errors? Websites with errors are often misleading. Also, does it exaggerate with words like greatest, biggest, best, or only? If the website has any errors, many times it is a sign that the website was not created by a professional. It should be a warning sign that maybe what they are saying might also not be completely true.

4) What does the URL tell you? The ending of the website address can tell you a little about the person or company that posted the information.

Website URL	Person or Company Posting the Information
.com	anyone
.org	organizations and non-profits
.edu	colleges and universities
.mil	U.S. Department of Defense agencies and services
.gov	U.S. government entities and agencies including local government agencies

5) Can you find other sources that agree with the information? Any information that you find online that seems suspicious, should be fact checked. Look for another website from a more well known source that agrees with the original website that you found.

- **CBC Kids News, "What Is Fake News - Explained"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDOFt1tFYx8>

- **Hartness Library, "Credible Websites?"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFewwG7rq0E>



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