



Credible Sources

How to Tell If a Source is Reliable



What Makes a Credible Source?

- Brainstorm what you think it means to be a credible source.

Accurate, truthful, researched, reliable, trustworthy, current, valid, reputable

How Do You Tell If a Source is Credible?

- If you were to look at a source, what details will you evaluate to determine if a source is credible?

Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, Purpose – The **CRAPP** test! [Use this handout](#) as a reference sheet to help you determine whether or not a resource passes the CRAPP test.

Questions to Ask for Credibility Evaluation

What questions could you ask to determine if a source is credible?

1. When was this information published? Is it current?
2. Does the information relate to your topic? Who is the audience?
3. Who is the author? What are the credentials?
4. Is the information supported by evidence? Where does it come from?
5. What is the purpose? Is the information fact/opinion/propaganda?

Let's Practice – Round 1

Let's look up information on [Johnstown Monroe High School](#).

What information on this page is correct? Incorrect? What can you conclude about Wikipedia? Is it a credible source?

You Practice – Round 2

Perhaps you are researching an animal and what factors influence its successful reproduction. Let's compare the sites of the following two animals:

1. [Pacific NW Tree Octopus](#)
2. [Spotted Owl](#)

Are these sites credible? Yes/No? Why/why not? [Complete this form](#) to judge the credibility of the two sources.

What Sites Would Be Credible for Your Science Fair Research?

- [United States Department of Agriculture](#)
- [Department of Wildlife](#)
- [National Institutes of Health](#)
- [INFOhio and iSearch](#)

If you have questions about sources' credibility, ask your teacher or librarian for help.