



PSHE and Citizenship

Safer Internet Day 2021

Safer Internet Day 2021




Aim

- I understand that not all information online is true and I know how to assess the reliability of both text and images.


Success Criteria

- I can identify if something is fact or opinion.
- I can explain what fake news is and the effects of it.
- I can discuss how we can check if online information is reliable or not.
- I know strategies I can use to help me make safe online choices.
- I can reflect on how I can help stop the spread of fake news.


The Big Questions



What is
'fake news'?



How can we
tell if
something
online is
reliable or not?



What can we
do to help stop
the spread of
fake news?

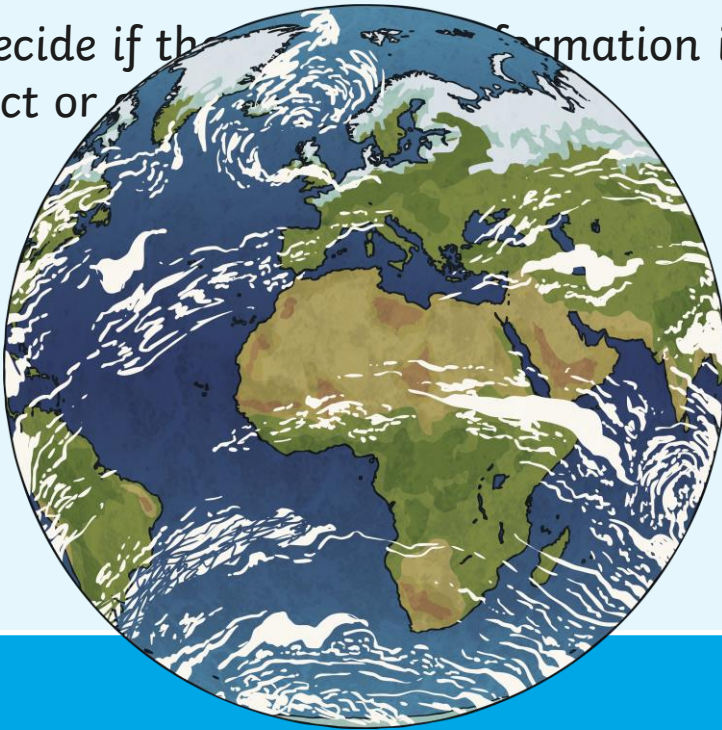
Reconnecting

Fact or Opinion?

Do you think it is easy or difficult to tell if something is true or false?

Is it easy to identify if something is fact or opinion?

Decide if the information is fact or opinion.



The best way to tell if something is a fact or an opinion is to ask yourself if it can be proven true or false. Facts are statements that can be proven true or false, while opinions are statements that cannot be proven true or false. For example, "The Earth is round" is a fact, while "The Earth is the best planet" is an opinion. Facts are objective and can be verified, while opinions are subjective and can vary from person to person. Facts are based on evidence and are not influenced by personal feelings or beliefs, while opinions are based on personal beliefs and feelings. Facts are true for everyone, while opinions are only true for the person who holds them. Facts are not influenced by time or place, while opinions can change over time and in different places. Facts are not influenced by the person who is speaking, while opinions are influenced by the person who is speaking. Facts are not influenced by the person who is listening, while opinions are influenced by the person who is listening. Facts are not influenced by the person who is reading, while opinions are influenced by the person who is reading. Facts are not influenced by the person who is writing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is writing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is thinking, while opinions are influenced by the person who is thinking. Facts are not influenced by the person who is feeling, while opinions are influenced by the person who is feeling. Facts are not influenced by the person who is acting, while opinions are influenced by the person who is acting. Facts are not influenced by the person who is reacting, while opinions are influenced by the person who is reacting. Facts are not influenced by the person who is observing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is observing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is interpreting, while opinions are influenced by the person who is interpreting. Facts are not influenced by the person who is judging, while opinions are influenced by the person who is judging. Facts are not influenced by the person who is evaluating, while opinions are influenced by the person who is evaluating. Facts are not influenced by the person who is comparing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is comparing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is contrasting, while opinions are influenced by the person who is contrasting. Facts are not influenced by the person who is analyzing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is analyzing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is synthesizing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is synthesizing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is creating, while opinions are influenced by the person who is creating. Facts are not influenced by the person who is evaluating, while opinions are influenced by the person who is evaluating. Facts are not influenced by the person who is comparing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is comparing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is contrasting, while opinions are influenced by the person who is contrasting. Facts are not influenced by the person who is analyzing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is analyzing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is synthesizing, while opinions are influenced by the person who is synthesizing. Facts are not influenced by the person who is creating, while opinions are influenced by the person who is creating.

Opinion



Fact or Opinion?

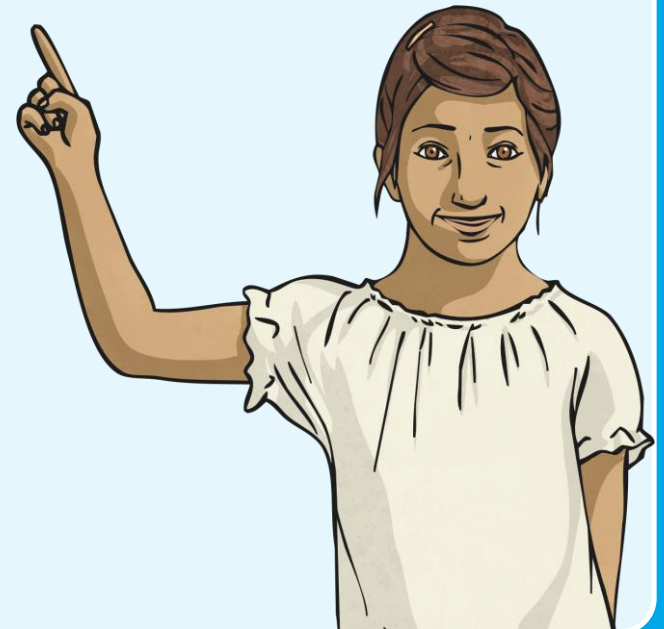
How did you work out if the information was fact or opinion?

What strategies did you use?

Was it easy or difficult?

Sometimes, it is easy to know if something is true or false but sometimes, it can be a little harder.

It is really important that we learn how to identify if something is true or false and if it is fact or opinion. This can help us to stay safe, happy and healthy, especially when we are online.



Exploring

Fake News

The Internet has a wealth of wonderful information and lots of it is incredibly useful for us in our daily lives. However, some of it is poor quality and out of date.

When we go online, it is also possible to come across information that is deliberately untrue and misleading. This can apply to information we may read and images we may see.

Fake news is untrue information presented as news. Its purpose is often to damage the reputation of a person or cause. The risk is that we believe what we are being told and it negatively influences our choices, actions, feelings and behaviour.

➤ How do you feel about fake news and misinformation online?

➤ It is important that we learn how to identify whether what we are looking at or reading online is reliable so that we can protect our wellbeing and stay safe when using the Internet.


Assessing Reliability

Read the **Assessing Reliability Information Sheet**.

- How can we identify if something we see or read online is reliable or not?
- What strategies can we use?
- What can we do to check if what we have seen or read is fake news or misinformation?

Assessing Reliability

It is important that we learn how to assess if the information we read and the images we see online are reliable or not.



1. Think carefully about why the information has been written or what the image is trying to say to you. Is it trying to get you to spend money? Is it trying to get you to give away personal information? Is it trying to get you to believe certain things? If the answer is yes, then what you are reading or seeing needs fact-checking.
2. Check for the padlock in the URL bar at the top of the site. This means that any data that is shared is secure.
3. Check the publication date of the information on the site. Is it up-to-date?
4. Use reputable and established websites - ones you know you can trust. These might link to other established and reputable sites too.
5. Use secure sites. These are sites with URLs that start with 'https'.
6. Check the end of the website is something like '.co.uk' or '.com'.
7. Take some time to think if the information is fact or opinion.
8. Cross-check information with other websites and offline sources to make sure that what you are reading is accurate and true.
9. Talk about what you have read or seen with an adult you trust and ask them to help you find out more.
10. Remember images online and social media can be manipulated and changed to look different to what they really are.
11. Ask yourself if the photo or video looks normal and if the story sounds believable. If not, fact-check it before believing or sharing it.

Learning how to check if online information and images are true can help us to stay safe and well when we use the Internet.

This resource is fully aligned with the Learning Outcomes and Core Themes outlined in the PSHE Association [Statement of Intent](#).

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Assessing Reliability

Remember...

When we go online, websites use cookies (a technology to track what we do and what we look at on the Internet) and this affects what we are shown or what appears on our social media pages.

This might mean that we then only see information, beliefs and opinions that support our own or what we are looking for, reinforcing how strongly we feel these. This is called an echo chamber and can mean we might not be getting information that is balanced, fair and true.

Websites must ask our permission to store these data files on our devices. We can accept or reject the use of cookies.

Finally, something may be called 'fake news' when it is actually true because someone or a group of people don't want to accept it or don't want others to accept it.

Making Safe Choices

Knowing how to assess the reliability of information we see online can help us to make safe choices when we use the Internet.

Look carefully at these scenarios.

What choices could you make to keep yourself safe and protect everyone's wellbeing?
Talk to someone at home about your ideas or write them down.

UKS2 Making Safe Choices Discussion Cards

You read an article online about a topical news issue. Some of it is what you have heard before but some of it is not. It asks you to share it with as many people as you can to spread the message. What choices could you make to keep you safe and protect everyone's wellbeing?



Making Safe Choices

If you see or read anything online that worries or frightens you, do the following:

- Show or tell an adult you trust about what is worrying, concerning or frightening you. Ask them for help.
- Record what you have seen or experienced and report it to the provider of the content. Then, ask for help in blocking it.
- If appropriate and necessary, make a note or take a screenshot of what you have seen or experienced and with a trusted adult's help, report it to the police.
- If you or someone else is in immediate danger, call 999.

You can always call Childline on 0800 111 to get help and advice about a wide range of issues.

Reflecting

Stopping the Spread

When we go online, we all have a shared responsibility to make choices and take actions that could help to stop the spread of fake news and misinformation. This would help to protect everyone's wellbeing.

We can:

- fact-check information before sharing and forwarding it;
- keep images we share real;
- use reputable and secure sites.

In a moment of quiet, think about what you are going to do to help stop the spread of misinformation online.

Can you think of anything else?



The Big Questions

Safer Internet Day 2021

Safer Internet Day is celebrated each year in February but of course, being **safe online** is something that everybody needs to do all year round!

Write down two things you can do to stay safe online.

The Internet and digital technology provides us with amazing opportunities and endless possibilities. Tick the things that you use digital technology for:

- video calls playing games help with schoolwork
 watching videos communicating via text communicating via email
 shopping listening to music hobbies and interests

other:

Each year, Safer Internet Day has a different theme. This year, the theme is **An Internet We Trust**.



Whenever we go online, we need to think about whether we can trust the things we see, read and hear. That means asking ourselves:

Are these things online true?

Scientists Pull Moon to Earth for Brighter

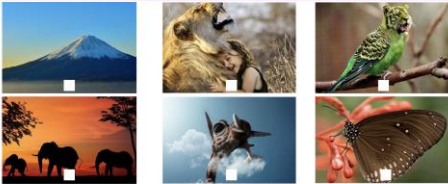


New Species of Fish Discovered in Deep Ocean



It isn't just stories, messages, photos and videos that you take on...

Tick the photos you think might be fake.



When we see something online that we think might not be reliable, we need to check it. Which of these options are good ways to check information?

- Speak to a trusted adult. Check the information on other websites. Check the information in a book. Check the URL - is this a reputable site you have heard of?

Can we trust what we see online?

- Yes. Everything and everyone online is trustworthy.
 We can trust some things but we need to check other things.
 No. Nothing and no one can be trusted.
 I'm not sure.

Lots of information and things we view online can be trusted. They are reliable and trustworthy. Can you write down two or three trustworthy sites or apps that you know of?

However, some information online is not reliable even if it is presented as factual.

Which of these pieces of information do you think sounds trustworthy?

A pop-up box saying you have won £1,000,000.

Information on the BBC website saying King Henry VIII had six wives.

A message saying you need to forward it to ten friends so you don't get ten years of bad luck.

News on a website you've never heard of claiming that dinosaurs still exist.



Sometimes, stories are shared online that sound like news but they are actually fake. They have been made to trick people. Can you spot the fake news stories here, just from these headlines?

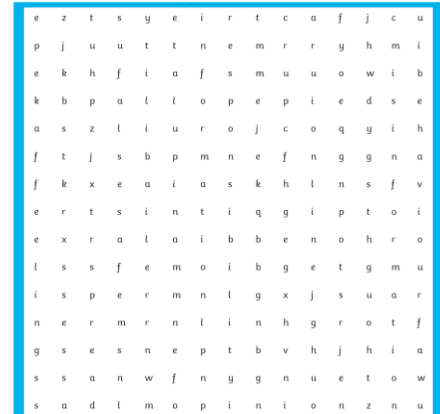
Tornado Hits South America



How can we tell if something online is reliable or not?

Misinformation Online

Find all of the words relating to fake news and making safe choices. Afterwards, talk about the meaning of each word with a partner.



fake	false	safe	assess	behaviour
fact	information	choices	wellbeing	spread
opinion	reliability	manipulate	thoughts	stop
true	online	misinformation	feelings	responsibility

Have a go at the **Interactive PDF: Safer Internet Day 2021 9-11 Activity** and the **Misinformation Online Word Search** to think a little more about everything we have learnt.

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