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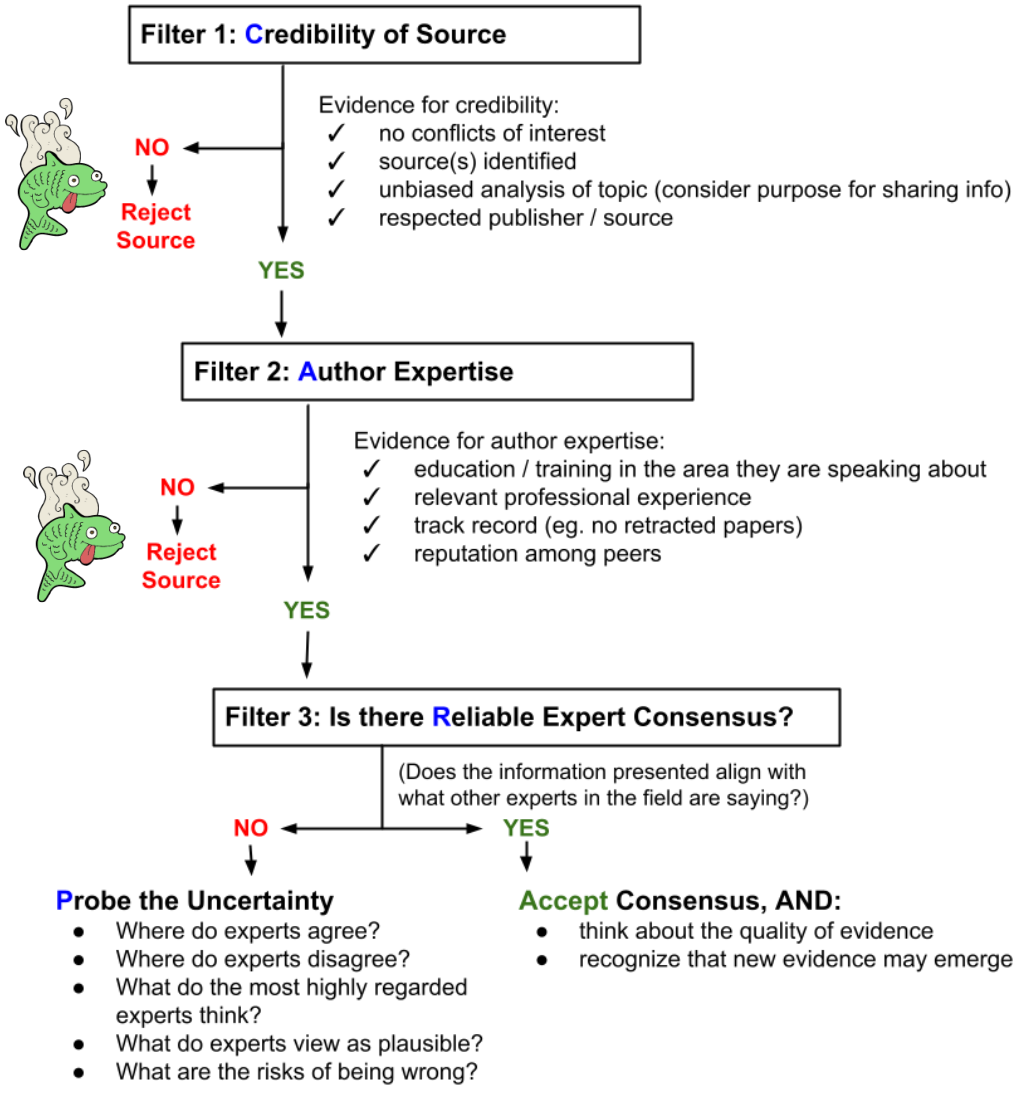
Evaluating Science Web- Pages or Social-Media Accounts

Introduction: The internet can offer lots of great information with stories, videos, images and links that are interesting and encourage us to learn more. Unfortunately, sometimes what we see on the internet is fake or riddled with misinformation. In this investigation, you will evaluate a web-page or social media account to determine whether the source of information can be trusted or not. By using a set of filters that are similar to those used by expert fact-checkers, you can learn how to separate out "fishy" sources from those that are more trustworthy.

The CARP Filter for Science Information

(because it helps you filter out the 'fishy' stuff)



Adapted from: Osborne, J., & Pimentel, D. (2022). Science, misinformation, and the role of education. *Science*, *378*(6617), 246–248. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abq8093

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Using the CARP Filter

The website or source I'm evaluating is: (students paste link here)

Instructions: Starting with Filter 1, review each of the criteria below, adding a ✔ or **x** in the space provided. Be sure to include notes regarding what you found. If your source passes Filter 1, continue on to Filter 2. If your source passes Filter 2, continue to Filter 3.

Filter 1: Credibility of Source	
	no conflicts of interest
	source(s) identified
	unbiased analysis of topic (consider the purpose for sharing information)
	respected publisher / source
Notes:	

1a. Does this source pass Filter 1 (Credibility)? YES - PASS/ NO - FAIL

1b. Explain why you feel this source passes / does not pass the credibility filter:

Filter 2: Author Expertise	
	education / training in the area they are speaking about (from an institution you can actually verify exists)
	professional experience
	track record (eg. no retracted papers)
	reputation among peers
Notes:	

2a. Does this source pass Filter 2 (Author Expertise)? YES - PASS/ NO - FAIL

2b. Explain why you feel this source passes / does not pass the author expertise filter:

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Filter 3: Reliable Expert Consensus	
	Does the information presented align with what the majority of experts in the field are saying? (make sure you are considering up-to date information)
Notes:	

3a. Does this source pass Filter 3 (Reliable Expert Consensus)? YES / NO

3b. Explain:

4. If there is NO reliable expert consensus on this topic, Probe a bit more into the uncertainty. *(Otherwise, skip this step and move to #5)*	
What do experts agree on?	
What do experts disagree on?	
What do the most highly regarded experts think?	
What do experts view as plausible?	
What are the risks of being wrong?	

Reflection:

5. What are your overall conclusions about this source of information? Why?

6. What would you do next, based on what you have found?

7. What was your experience using the "CARP" filter? (For example, what was difficult? What might you need to do differently next time?)

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Teacher Resources:

Here are a few science related web-pages to review. (examples)

- https://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/ pacific northwest tree octopus
- https://www.househippofoundation.org/ house hippo foundation
- https://www.dhmo.org/ DHMO research
- http://www.deadlysins.com/guinea-worm save the Guinea worm
- http://www.thedogisland.com/ Dog Island
- https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reptiles Reptiles
- https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html NASA Kid's Club
- https://www.projectnoah.org/ Project Noah
- https://sciencebob.com/ Science Bob
- Science Up First
    - Tiktok: https://www.tiktok.com/@scienceupfirst?
    - Twitter (X): https://twitter.com/scienceupfirst