

Digital and Media Literacy Quick Guide

For Home, Classroom, or Personal Use

5 Daily Habits for Smarter Media Use

1. Ask Questions First

- Who created this content?
- What's their intent?
- Is it fact, opinion, or satire?

2. Check Before You Share

Use fact-checking tools like Snopes, PolitiFact, and NewsGuard.

3. Look Beyond the Headline

Always read the full article or watch the whole video before drawing conclusions.

4. Know Your Biases

Be aware of personal and media biases. Seek out diverse sources.

5. Teach & Talk

Regularly discuss media content with family, classmates, or friends.

Top Free Tools for Everyday Use

NewsGuard - Rates credibility of websites

Media Bias/Fact Check - Analyzes political bias

Snopes - Debunks misinformation

Common Sense Media - Reviews content for families

PBS LearningMedia - Media literacy lessons

Questions to Spark Media Literacy

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- What's the source of this information?
- Is there a clear author or publisher?
- What emotions does this content try to trigger?
- Are there reliable references or links?
- Could this be AI-generated or altered?

Tips for Parents & Teachers

- Use YouTube's Restricted Mode and browser filters.
- Encourage daily reflection: "What did you learn online today?"
- Assign weekly "media detective" tasks: find and analyze one headline or video.
- Reinforce the idea: Not everything online deserves your trust-or your share.

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