Evaluation Of A Web Site

Activity Instructions

Web sites need to be evaluated for educational purposes. This evaluation form is divided into four different categories: 1-accuracy, 2-navigation, 3-content, and 4-appearance. For research, accuracy and content are obviously important, but navigation and appearance are equally important. The site will either keep the audiences’ attention or the audience will find a different site. The Web is not just a means of information, but is a visual means of information. Evaluating sites before using them will be helpful to sort the good from the bad. This form was compiled by reviewing many different evaluation forms located online. A bibliography of these sites has been provided for you to view for further information. There are six sites listed; choose two and answer the questions. There may be questions you will want to add and some questions that do not apply to your site. The sites that have been selected should be evaluated based on their use in a K-12 setting.

Web Sites

Views of the Solar System-
http://bang.lanl.gov/solarsys/homepage.htm

CancerGuide-
http://cancerguide.org/mainmenu.html

Classroom Connect-
http://www.classroom.net

From Now On-
http://fromnowon.org/

The Electronic Zoo-
http://netvet.wustl.edu/e-zoo.htm

MayaQuest-
http://mayaquest.mecc.com/

Evaluation Form

Title of site: _______________________________________________________________

Subject of site: _____________________________________________________________

URL: ___________________________________________________________________

Reason for using the site:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Accuracy:
Is there a contact person listed and an e-mail address to reach the person?

Is there a date that tells you when the page was made or updated?

Is the author an expert or does he/she have qualifications in his/her field?

Is there information included that you know is inaccurate (e.g. “a spider has 6 legs”, when actually a spider has 8)?

Does the author provide support for their information (bibliography, links to related sites)?

Navigation:
Does the homepage download efficiently enough to keep the audience’s (class, student, teacher) attention?

Is there a title on the page that informs the audience what the page is about?

Is there an introduction on the page that informs the audience what the content will be about?

Is each section of the page labeled with a heading?

Does the page have related links to lead you further (not to a dead end)?

Will the audience be able to move from page-to-page using hyperlinks with ease and without getting lost or confused?

If there are supporting pages to the site, do they have a hyperlink back to the home page?

Content:
Does the site have an ample amount of valuable information for the audience to browse?

Is the information on the topic complete and precise for its intended purpose?