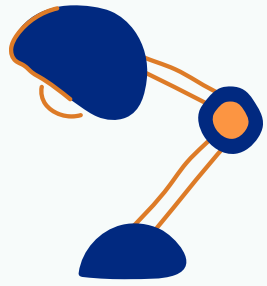


DO YOUR RESEARCH!

*Think Before You Act:
Determine Credibility Using
the 5Ws*



Step 1 - WHO is the author?

When you come across information, especially via social media, examine the authority; who wrote or created this information? Is there an article link, or an original source listed?

Step 2 - WHAT is the purpose of the content?

Next, you need to assess the accuracy of the content by closely inspecting it. What is the purpose of the material, and can you suss out any potential motives? Look at the material objectively.



Step 3 - WHERE is the content from?

After you determine the author and purpose, question the source. Who published this work? When using online websites, look for reputable organizations. A general rule of thumb for trustworthiness is to look for web addresses that end with .gov, .edu, and .org.

Step 4 - WHEN was the material published?

Review the information for purpose and objectivity. Is it dated? Is there anything that jumps out as potentially untrue?

Step 5 - HOW does this source compare to others?

Finally, look for precedent. Have the findings, claims, or results of the material been replicated? Can you find additional materials that draw the same or similar conclusions? In other words, WHY should you use this information?

