9. Q3 Search Strategies Website Evaluation Form

# **Search Strategies – 21things4students Website evaluation guide**

# **Your website is (**[**http://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/**](http://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/) **or another site your teacher has assigned to you):**

Today your task is to determine if your website is an authentic website or not. We’re going to judge it based on various criteria, then you’ll make your final decision.

1. Look at the bottom of your webpage. Who is responsible for this site? What are their credentials? What makes them an expert?
2. Are there sources cited for the information on the page? Where are the sources from?
3. Are there spelling or grammar errors on the page?
4. What is the domain name? (example: .com, .edu, .net, etc.) Is it a personal page?
5. Do the links on this site work correctly?
6. Open google in another tab. Find out who else is linking to your site. In the search box, type link: webaddress (example: link:www.richmond.k12.mi.us). The sites linked to your site will pop up. Open these other sites. What are they saying about your site?
7. Why was this site created (to inform, persuade, explain, sell, parody, etc.)?
8. Is there a bias? Is one side of the argument presented more than the other? Is there a hidden message?
9. Does this site contain facts or opinions? Give an example to support your answer.
10. Is the site clean and uncluttered? Is it easy to get the key information? Why or why not.
11. Is the information accurate? Does the site give enough information?
12. When was this site last updated?
13. Could you get better information about this topic in a book? Encyclopedia?
14. Use common sense Is the topic of this website realistic? Do the facts make sense? Give examples why or why not?

**Final Decision:**