Information Literacy Skills

Evaluation Strategies for Media

Acquiring media literacy skills helps students learn to think critically about information consumed from various sources. Students learn to identify the role of media in our culture, recognize points of view, and understand authors' goal for putting out information. Students learn to become smart consumers and creators of information.

Media literacy skills can be fostered by prompting students to ask specific questions. These questions could serve as a guide in consuming and creating information.





Who created this?

- Was it an individual, a company, or an anonymous source?
- What is the author's level of expertise?

Why did the authors create this?

- Was the information created to persuade, inform, create humor, or share opinions?
- Was the information created to gain power, influence, or profit?





Who is the message for?

- Is the message for artists, professionals, or people with particular interests?
- Is the message for women, men, adults, kids, or particular groups of people?

What techniques are being used to make this message credible?

- Is there evidence to support assertions made?
- Is the evidence being used verifiable?





What details were left out and why?

- Is the information presented balanced?
- Are there multiple views or is only one view presented?

How did the message make you feel?

- Do you think everyone feels the same way you feel about the information?
- Would others disagree?

