**Education Website Evaluation Questions**

**Credibility and objectivity of the author/source**
- Does the site clearly list the individual(s) or organization(s) that created or contributed to the site and provide information about them and the purpose of the site (such as on an “About” page)?
- Does the site provide information regarding the qualifications or expertise of the individual(s) or group(s) that created the site?
- Does the site provide a means of making comments, asking questions, or communicating with the author(s)? Does the site give or cite sources for information where appropriate?
- Does the content reflect an explicit or hidden bias?
- Is the advertising, if any, limited and appropriate for the audience?
- Anyone can produce a website, but the address can help indicate the nature of the source. A site with a tilde (~) in the address usually indicates that it was created by an individual, and “.com” usually indicates a commercial business. Federal government sites often end in “.gov” and educational sites often include “k12” or “.edu” in the address.

**Accuracy of the content**
- Is the content consistent with other resources?
- Is the content based on the input of one expert or several sources?
- Are the qualifications of the source noted and accessible?
- Are there inconsistencies and mistakes in the content? (Sometimes spelling and grammar may indicate quality/accuracy.)
- Is the content general in nature, or does it include specific details, explanations, proofs, and so on?

**Currency of the information**
- When was the page or site produced? When was it last updated?
- Are links, if any, current and updated regularly? Are any links outdated?

**Appropriateness/relevance of the content**
- Can the content be easily read and understood by the intended audience?
- Is the purpose of the site clearly expressed and reflected by its content?
- Is there enough relevant content to make visiting the site worth the effort?
- Does the site contain interactive elements, such as animations, videos, and activities that go beyond text/images to engage and enhance learning?
Education Website Evaluation Questions, cont.

Access, format, and ease of use

- If the site contains large amounts of content, is an index of topics or a search function provided to help users find topics and information easily?
- Is the site text only or a balance of text and images?
- Can users navigate the site easily?
- Is the site cluttered with graphics, fonts, and backgrounds that may distract from reading and understanding?
- Does the site present content in any way that may limit access to viewing it?
- Are there clear instructions for any interactive features, such as games, animations, and assessments?
- Is the site consistently available, and does it load without problems?
- Does the site require users to provide personal information or pay for use?
- Are accessibility and ease of use helped by features on the site, such as transitional pages, searchable databases, and animations?
- Does the site contain a “Help” section or link where users can ask questions regarding use, navigation, contents, and so on?