

Looking for some easy ideas to bring media literacy to your pupils?

We still teach kids to “Google it” and check the URL. But teenagers don't search for news anymore, they scroll for it. Here's a simple whiteboard activity that shows the difference in two minutes, zero prep.

ASK YOUR CLASS: HOW DO YOU ACTUALLY FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Search

IF YOU SAID GOOGLE

- Type a question into Google
- Check the URL for "https"
- Compare a few different sources
- Look for .gov or .org

Scroll

IF YOU SAID TIKTOK OR INSTAGRAM

- Do you know who posted it, or just recognise their face?
- Does it matter how many times it's been shared?
- Would you ever leave the app to check further?
- How would you know if a clip like this was misleading?

How to run it

- 1 Draw one line down the middle of your whiteboard. Label the sides “Search” and “Scroll”.
- 2 Ask the class: how do you actually find out what's happening? Write their answers under “Search” or “Scroll”.
- 3 For whichever side they picked, ask the follow-up questions above, and talk through what's missing.

2 minutes · no planning required

A few small habits go a long way.

More free classroom resources at parentzone.org.uk