

The Beat

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by Rebecca Haynes Mott

PreTeen Teacher
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When you need to know, where do you go? If you're like most kids these days, you check the Web. But you'd better watch out. There's no guarantee that what you read there is true.

Just as TV is not reality, the Internet is a mix of opinions, facts, and downright lies. Millions of people depend on it to tell them pretty much everything, but the info, sent out at lightening speed, carries no guarantees regarding accuracy or truth.

So how do you know what to believe?

Help is on the way. Businesses are hopping on this new need. Websites like TruthorFiction.com, or technical systems like the Truthsayer Project, are being developed to sort out fact and fiction on the Web. In the meantime, always check out the source before trusting what you read.

THINK ABOUT IT

- How much of Internet content do you think is true?
- How do you feel when you rely on information and later find out it's not true?



That's the Truth!

Write two statements about yourself: one true and one false. Take turns reading your statements aloud and see if classmates can identify which statements are true.



Is it easy or difficult for you to tell the truth? Why?