

## Criteria for Evaluating Web-Based Lessons

This lesson should do a better job teaching the subject than a traditional lesson.

### *Questions for Reflection:*

- Does the technology enhance or detract from the content?
- Is the information found on the Web as good as or better than information found in a book?

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The content, style, and delivery should address your intended audience.

### *Questions for Reflection:*

- Is the language/vocabulary appropriate for your students' reading level?
- Is the content appropriate for the classroom/age of the students?
- Does the technology require skills that my students do not have?
- If so, can these skills be obtained by my students in a reasonable amount of time to allow for successful completion of the lesson?

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The module should address national, state, or local standards.

### *Questions for Reflection:*

- Does the module address national, state, or local standards?

[National Standards for Science and Math](#)

[National Educational Technology Standards](#)

## [Illinois Learning Stanards](#) (State Goals)

This is a PDF file. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader to view or print this document. You can download Adobe Acrobat Reader from the Adobe Web site.



## [Chicago Academic Standards](#)

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The lesson should include engaging, interactive activivites.

### *Questions for Reflection:*

- Do the activities require individual student inquiry or do they require for students to work together as a class or in small groups?
- Is there a culminating activity?
- Is there a means of assessment?

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The lesson should make the best of use of the technology that is available in your school.

### *Questions for Reflection:*

- Are the activities designed with lab access for the entire class in mind?
- Or are they designed for individual student inquiry or small group collaboration?
- What kind of access will you have? Lab access or classroom access?  
How many computers do you have in your classroom?

- Do I have access to this technology?

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The Web resources should be accurate, reliable, and age appropriate

*Questions for Reflection:*

- Download a rubric to help you [Evaluate Educational Web Sites](#).

Can the lesson be modified to better fit the needs of my classroom?

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# Web-Based Lesson Evaluation Checklist

**URL of lesson:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1. This lesson teaches the subject better than a traditional lesson.			
2. Technology enhances the content.			
3. Information on the Web is as good/better than information found in a book.			
<b>Content, Style and Delivery</b>			
4. Language/vocabulary is appropriate for students' reading level.			
5. Content is appropriate for the classroom/age of the students.			
6. Technology is appropriate for students skill level.			
<b>Standards</b>			
7. Lesson addresses national, state or local standards.			
<b>Student Activities</b>			
8. Activities are engaging/interactive.			
9. Lesson includes a culminating activity.			
10. Lesson includes a means of assessment.			
<b>Use of Technology</b>			

11. Activities are designed with lab access for the entire class in mind.			
12. Activities are designed for individual/small group student inquiry.			
13. Class has lab/internet access for the lesson.			
14. Teacher has access to required technology.			
<b>Web Resources</b>			
15. Web resources for the lesson are accurate, reliable and age appropriate.			
<b>Lesson Modifications</b>			
16. Lesson can be modified to better suit the needs of my classroom.			

**Tip:** keep a copy of this form open but minimized while you surf. When you find a Web-based lesson you want to make note of, cut and paste its url into the appropriate column and make a few notes about it.

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## Assigning a score to a website.

Now that you have evaluated a website using the Website Critique Checklist, give the website one (1) point for each category for which you checked "yes." Count up the points and assign it a rating according to the following scale:

30-34 points	Enthusiatically recommend
25-29 points	Recommend
20-24 points	Recommend with reservation
15-19 points	Do not recommend
< 15 points	Don't even go there!

How did the website do? Although it may take a little time initially, evaluating websites that your students use (and that you design) is an extremely valuable tool. It is important to be a critical consumer of information, and to teach your children to do the same.

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# Website Critique Checklist

**URL of website:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Authorship and Sponsorship</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1. Is the website author/manager clearly stated?			
2. Are sources of information appropriately cited?			
3. Is it possible to give feedback to author/manager?			
<b>Website's Purpose</b>			
4. Is the purpose of the website obvious?			
5. Is content (high-quality information) the primary focus of the website?			
6. Is the website "relatively free" of overt bias (gender, racial, religious, etc.)?			
<b>Design and Stability</b>			
7. Is information easy to use and find?			
8. Is the website visually appealing?			
9. Is the text easy to read?			
10. Is the website easy to navigate?			
11. Are the links pages well-organized and inviting?			
12. Are the collected links well-chosen and useful to children exploring the subject?			

13. Is the website design appropriate (not too complicated or confusing) for the intended audience?			
14. If the website is for games or recreation, are playing instructions present?			
15. Does the page load in a reasonable amount of time? (Will it on the computers you will be using with your students?)			
16. Is the page consistently available and does it load without problems?			
17. Are required plug-ins clearly identified?			
18. Do the design elements and features (searchable databases, animations, graphics, sound files, introductory and transitional pages, and so on) enhance the website?			
19. Are interactive features clearly explained?			
20. Is the website free of fees and requests for personal information?			
<b>Content</b>			
21. Is the title appropriate to the website's purpose?			
22. Is the content easy to read and comprehend by its intended audience?			
23. Is there enough information to make visiting the website worthwhile?			
24. If there is a large amount of information on the website, is there a search function provided?			

25. Is an outline of topics provided allowing users to find topics and move among them easily?			
26. Is the spelling and grammar always correct?			
27. Is the information current and accurate?			
28. Is the information updated regularly?			
29. Is there a "last updated" date?			
30. Are more links to information on the topic provided?			
31. Are graphics relevant and appropriate to the content?			
32. Is the subject matter relevant to and appropriate for the intended audience?			
33. Are the skills required to use the website's features and structure appropriate and/or appropriately challenging for the intended audience?			
34. Does the website contain the highest quality information?			

This checklist is modified from criteria taken from <http://www.ala.org/parentspage/greatsites/criteria.html>

**Tip:** keep a copy of this form open but minimized while you surf. When you find a website you want to make note of, cut and paste its url into the appropriate column and make a few notes about it.

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