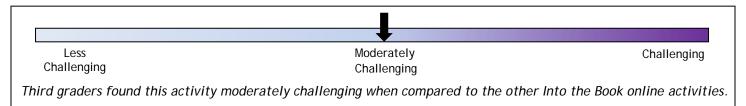
Teacher Guide to Online Activity: Evaluating - Space Race

Summary:

Students will practice website evaluation while racing to build and launch a rocket. They learn to identify key website features such as the web address, authors, and date. Then they analyze whether sample websites are relevant, current, and reliable.

To view the standards this activity addresses, visit: http://reading.ecb.org/teacher/standards.html



Teaching Tips:

If students are using iPads, remind them they can use *Siri* (an iPad feature that will type student input into the text fields).

During this activity, students sometimes find it challenging to:

- Switch between the four website choices for each job, and remember what information was provided on each website
 - o Model switching between the four website choices (labeled A, B, C, and D)
 - o Encourage students to type notes about the website in the "Ask Yourself" textbox on the right side of the screen to help them keep track of and record their thinking.

Before you start:

- Review evaluating and how it can be used to complete tasks such as decision making.
- Discuss with students the various purposes of websites.
- Tell learners they will be evaluating websites in this activity based on the relevancy, currency, and reliability of the information they provide.
- Inform students that it can be challenging to remember the difference between the websites. So, it may prove helpful to type notes in the "Ask yourself" text box about why the particular website is a good or poor choice. It is okay to say why a website is not a good choice!
- Tell students to look at all four websites (not just one or two) for each task before choosing one, so that they can make an informed choice.

After you finish:

- Use students' printed responses to conference with the students, discussing their reasoning for choosing a website. Ask students questions such as:
 - o How does this website help you complete the job?
 - o What made you choose this website instead of the other websites?
 - What did you learn about choosing websites from this activity?
- With the class, discuss evaluating while reading, when doing research, and in everyday situations (i.e. comparing prices at the grocery store).
- Explain to students that a website is a host or place to store information; the person or group that owns the website may or may not have written the information found on the website.





Answer Key:

Below are the star ratings for the websites evaluated in *Space Race*. Websites with three stars are the best choice.

EVALUATING: Space Race! Your Picks & Answers

Job 1: What information is on the website?









Job 2: Is the information current?









Job 3: Who wrote the website and why?









Job 4: Use everything you learned together.











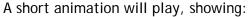


Screen-by-screen Preview:

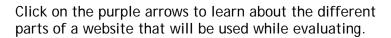
Choose **Space Race** to begin the online activity. Next, watch a short video tutorial.

Then click:

- Continue to begin the activity
- Replay to play the tutorial again
- Watch Video to watch a clip from Into the Book that reviews evaluating.



- how website evaluation is similar to book evaluation
- how to evaluate the website information for
 - o relevancy,
 - o currency, and
 - o reliability.



A job and four websites are given. Choose the website that best helps complete the job. The jobs are as follows:

- Job 1: Research your engine (choose a website with relevant information)
- Job 2: Research your space suit (choose a website with current information)
- Job 3: Research your wings (choose a website with information from a reliable source)
- Job 4: Research your space food (choose a website that meets all three criteria)













All four websites must be examined before the program will allow you to make a choice.

Use the text box to explain why you chose a website.

- A justification must be entered for the website chosen.
- Justifications may also be entered for the websites not chosen.

Receive one, two, or three stars for the website chosen. The more useful a website is in completing the job, the more stars it earns.



EVALUATING: Space Race!

Frezzy En A B C D

Earn more stars than the two computer competitors. The player that earns the most stars gets to blast off first.



After the activity, click:

- Print Your Choices and Answers
- Play the Evaluating Song
- Play Space Race Again
- Go Back to the Student Main Menu.





