

# Evaluating Information on the Internet



Is all information on the Internet trustworthy?

How can I tell if information is good and trustworthy?

The following slides will give you information so you  
can be a SMART user of the Internet!

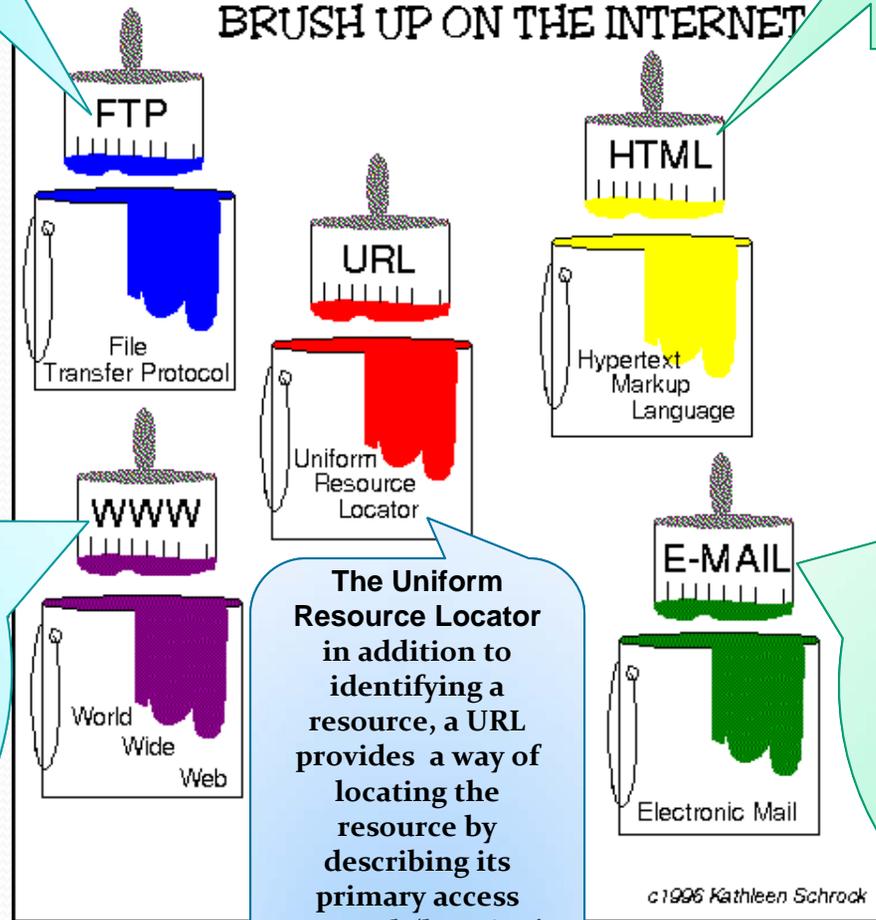
PowerPoint Prepared by Gayla Goff, 2007

# Internet Basics

File Transfer Protocol is a network protocol used to transfer data from one computer to another through a network, such as over the Internet.

HyperText Markup Language, is commonly used markup language for web pages.

## BRUSH UP ON THE INTERNET



The World Wide Web is a system of interlinked hypertext documents accessed via the Internet. With a Web browser, a user views Web pages that may contain text, images, videos, and other multimedia and navigates between them using hyperlinks.

The Uniform Resource Locator in addition to identifying a resource, a URL provides a way of locating the resource by describing its primary access network 'location' on the Internet.

Electronic mail and often abbreviated to *e-mail*, *email* or simply *mail*, is a store and forward method of composing, sending, receiving and storing messages over electronic communication systems like the Internet.

# HTTP and Domain Names



Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is a communications protocol for the transfer of information on the Internet.

## Domain Names on the Internet

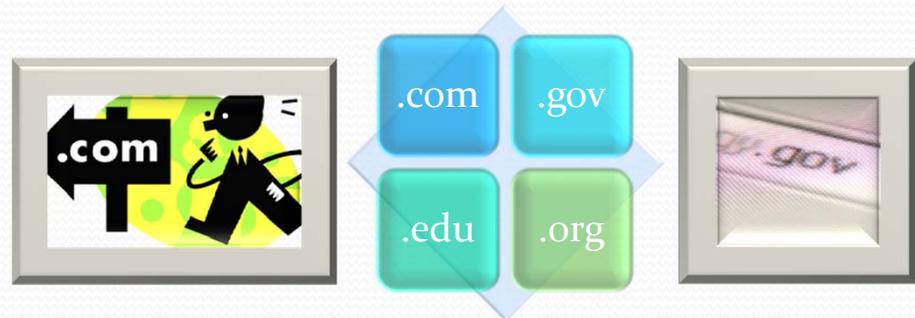
Domain name addresses, together with IP addresses, are the two forms of Internet addresses in common use.

Domain name addresses all end with a correct top-level domain. The top-level domains may be any of these:

.com	[ commercial ]
.edu	[ educational ]
.gov	[ government ]
.int	[ Intranet ]
.mil	[ military ]
.net	[ network, or internet ]
.org	[ organization ]

Or a two-letter country code, such as .us, .uk, or .mx.

Source: Walt's Internet Glossary;  
<http://www.walthowe.com/glossary/d.html>



- Domain Names are names that identifies a computer or computers on the Internet.
- There are four common domain names, commercial (.com), government (.gov), educational (.edu), and organization (.org).
- If you go to [www.okcps.org](http://www.okcps.org), notice that the URL ends in **.org**. This means that **OKCPS** is identified as an organization on the Internet.

# Your SMART Guide to the Internet

## 5 W's for Evaluating Web Sites

**S**  
(Survey)

Who

Who wrote the pages and are they an expert?  
Is a biography of the author included?  
How can you find out more about the author?

**M**  
(Monitor)

What

What does the author say is the purpose of the site?  
What else might the author have in mind for the site?  
What makes the site easy to use?

**A**  
(Accuracy)

Where

Where does the information come from?  
Where can I look to find out more about the producer/sponsor?

**R**  
(Recent)

When

When was the site created?  
When was the site last updated?

**T**  
(Think)

Why

Why is this information useful for my purpose?  
Why should I use this information?  
Why is this page better than another?

Be a SMART  
user of the  
Internet

Adapted chart from  
this  
Source of  
Information

©1998 by Kathy Schrock (kathy@kathyschrock.net)  
PDF version to print out: <http://kathyschrock.net/abceval/5ws.pdf>  
Back to Kathy Schrock's Critical Evaluation Page: <http://kathyschrock.net/abceval/>  
Back to Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators: <http://discoveryschool.com/schrockguide/>

# Compare and Contrast websites using the 5 W's

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**CRITICAL EVALUATION OF A WEB SITE**  
**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEVEL**

©1996-2006. Kathleen Schrock (kathy@kathyschrock.net)  
Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators  
<http://discoveryschool.com/schrockguide/>

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1. How are you hooked to the Internet?  
 •  Modem and phone line  
 •  Direct connection at school/home

2. What Web browser are you using? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the URL (address) of the Web page you are using?  
 http:// \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the name of the site?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Part 1: How does it look?	YES	NO
<b>As you look at the questions below, put an X in the "yes" or "no" column for each.</b>		
Does the page take a long time to load?		
Are there big pictures on the page?		
Is the spelling correct on the page?		
Is the author's name and e-mail address on the page?		
Is there a picture on the page that you can use to choose links? (Image map)		
Is there information in columns on the page? (Table)		
If you go to another page, is there a way to get back to the first page?		
Is there a date that tells you when the page was made?		
If there are photographs, do they look real?		
If there are sounds, do they sound real?		

You can use this Critical Evaluation of a Web Site for Elementary School Level along with the 5 W's (SMART Guide), as you compare each site and others you have permission to visit!

To see an example of a bad Internet website visit:

<http://www.weathergraphics.com/tim/fisher/>

To see an example of a good Internet website visit:

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/inddepth/friedworms.asp>

# Internet Safety Tips

Remember to be critical thinkers when viewing information on the Internet. Here are some Internet safety tips for the next time you are online:



Never give your name, school, or home address to anyone on the Internet.



Never go see anyone you meet online.



Always tell your legal guardian (parent, stepparents, grandparents, aunt, etc.) what websites you visit and if you think something is not right with any information.



Using these tips will help you be a SMART user of information on the World Wide Web!

Thank you!