**Tip #1 - Know Your Bias**

Everyone has social and political biases. In order to gain a broad perspective on news stories and to avoid confirmation bias, consider exploring sources that depict the news from many different perspectives. Use the columns in the Media Bias Chart to locate sources on all different parts of the bias spectrum.

![Media Bias Chart](https://www.mediamatters.org/images/research/survival-guides/media-bias-chart.jpg)

**Tip #2 - Is it Fact or Opinion?**

Many news outlets offer a mix of factual reporting and opinion pieces. Opinion pieces are great for learning about news analysis and interpretation, but keep in mind that just because you agree with an opinion doesn’t mean it’s necessarily true, and just because you disagree doesn’t mean it’s fake.

**Opinion = Disputable**  
**Fact = Provable certainty**
Tip #3 Don't SHARE if you're not SURE!

Bad information spreads like a virus on social media. You can break the chain by verifying news claims before you share them online.

Some Fact-Checking Sites:
www.snopes.com
www.politifact.com
www.factcheck.org

Tip #4 The CRAAP Test

Developed by the librarians at the University of California at Chico:

**Currency**
The timeliness of information.
*Check the publish date.*

**Relevance**
The importance of the information to a person's needs.
*Check the audience. Is it appropriate?*

**Authority**
The source of the information.
*Check the writer and/or website.*

**Accuracy**
The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content.
*Check the content. Are there any extraordinary claims?*

**Purpose**
The reason the information exists.
*is it just for reporting the facts? Or is is for financial or political gain? Or is it satire?*