

## Franklin Public Library

### Misinformation and Media Literacy Guide

- **Definitions**
  - **Misinformation:** False or inaccurate information regardless of intent to mislead
  - **Disinformation:** False or inaccurate information intended to mislead
  - **Fake News:** An umbrella term that encompasses all types of false or inaccurate information
  - **Media Literacy:** The ability to assess and analyze media messages from any media source such as: social media, television news, and online news sources
  - **Information Literacy:** Information literacy is the ability to find, evaluate, organize, and use information
  - **Types of Fake News**
    - **Complete false information**
      - False information that is spread with the intent to mislead
    - **Misleading Information**
      - False information that has some truth to the statement hidden by falsehoods
    - **Biased Information**
      - Information that only provides one side to intentionally misled
    - **Satire**
      - False information created to be comedic
  
- **Fact Checking Websites**
  - <https://www.politifact.com/> and <https://www.factcheck.org/>
    - Unbiased fact-checking websites that focus on claims of politicians in the United States of America
  - <https://www.snopes.com/>
    - A fact-checking website that reviews any type of false or inaccurate information
  
- **Fake News Games**
  - [https://librarydevelopment.group.shef.ac.uk/storyline/questioning/fake-news-game/story\\_html5.html](https://librarydevelopment.group.shef.ac.uk/storyline/questioning/fake-news-game/story_html5.html)
    - An interactive game from the University of Sheffield (UK) that test's your ability to spot fake stories
  - <https://www.getbadnews.com/books/english/title>
    - A game that shows you how easy it is to create fake stories while covering six methods of manipulating news on social media

# HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS



## CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



## READ BEYOND

Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?



## CHECK THE AUTHOR

Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?



## SUPPORTING SOURCES?

Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.



## CHECK THE DATE

Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.



## IS IT A JOKE?

If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.



## CHECK YOUR BIASES

Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.



## ASK THE EXPERTS

Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.