

Finding the Right Information Right Now: Guidelines for Families, Caregivers and Teachers

Agenda:

Introductions
EIC & IEL Websites
Website Evaluation
Activity
Wrap-Up

Remember & Revisit

The “WHY”???

- Relevant, research-based, respected
- As professionals, it's our job to “weed” through what's available
- Anyone can publish *anything* on the web
- Site may not have an editor/fact-checker
- Site may serve as a “soapbox”
- Sponsors/authors often unknown

Illinois Early Learning Project
illinoisearlylearning.org
iel@illinois.edu

Illinois Early Intervention Clearinghouse
eiclearinghouse.org
Illinois-eic@illinois.edu



13 Children's Research Center
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51 Gerty Dr. ♦ Champaign, IL 61820
217-333-1876 ♦ 877-275-3227



A Checklist for Evaluating Web Resources

URL _____ Date Accessed _____

Is the site:

Tier 1	Relevant?	Yes	No	Notes/Comments
	Does it represent current early childhood “recommended practice”?			
	Does it have a clear purpose?			
	Has the resource been recently updated?			
	Video: Is it appropriate for the target audience?			
	Research-Based?	Yes	No	
	Does it include information or practices based on research that is timely and still supported?			
	Does it address current policy issues or avoid contradicting current policy?			
	Are sources cited?			
	Does it offer an easily accessible way to search for information within the site (i.e. search box)?			
	Video: Does it demonstrate a practice?			
	Respected?	Yes	No	
	Does it contain culturally appropriate language (e.g, respects the diversity of the Illinois population and uses current “person first” language)?			
	Does it have a sponsor/author of the site that is credible or an “expert in the field”?			
	Does it have a URL or domain name that invokes trust (.gov, .edu, .org, etc.)?			
	Does it present information that is current and accurate?			
Video: What is the source?				
Tier 2	Readable and Presented Clearly?	Yes	No	
	Is it easy to navigate?			
	Is it visually appealing ?			
	Does it present in a format that is appropriate for intended users? Is it mobile-friendly?			
	Is it open access or does it require users to register?			
	Does it offer a way to search the whole site (i.e. search box)?			
	Video: Is the video/audio clear? Does it offer closed-captioning?			

Do I recommend this site? Y or N
 Why or why not? Strengths? Features?