

Journal 5 – Website Evaluation

I decided to evaluate two different websites that are geared towards educational games. The two sites that I chose were Funbrain.com and NobelPrize.org. Both sites offer educational games but the approach is a little different. I could see where funbrain.com may be more on the fun side with an educational flavor while nobelprize.com would be more on the educational side with a fun flavor. I've had a little experience with both sites.

I remember when working with elementary students they often like to go to Fun brain to play educational games. Although the site seemed to be very popular among the youth I often questioned its credibility. After my review of the site I learned quite a bit. For one I did not know that Pearson Education was the owner. This was a very good finding. Unlike many websites that offer educational games, funbrain.com does not have advertisements filling the screen which is great. The website seems to be much more credible than I previously had believed.

Nobelprize.org just by being affiliated with the Nobel Prize has established credibility. After a thorough check of the educational portion of the website it seems like a very solid resource.

Depending on an educator's needs either of these websites would be a good choice. The topics differ but the goal is the same. Both sites provide educational games that are aimed to teach students but also allow them to interact and have fun. I enjoyed going through the evaluation process and learning about the QUICK technique. Before going through the evaluation process I first walked through the tutorial offered on the Library's website which also provided some valuable information. Although, I find myself to be very good at evaluated a website's credibility I learned a lot through this process.

QUICK Evaluation The Quality Information Checklist http://www.avon.k12.ct.us/enrichment/Enrich/quickgr4-0.htm	Website 1 - http://www.funbrain.com/	Website 2- http://nobelprize.org/educational/
1. Is it clear who has written the information?	Yes, Family Education Network affiliated with Pearson Education which is a credible source.	Yes, Nobel Prize recipients/organizations
2. Are the aims of the site clear?	Yes, however not specifically stated anywhere	Yes, to teach and inspire
3. Does the site achieve its aims?	Yes	Yes
4. Is the site relevant to me?	Yes	Yes
5. Can the information be checked?	Yes	Yes
6. When was the site produced?	2000-2010 Copyright so seems to be up-to-date	Unsure, however all educational games have detailed information with dates and the information on the site dates back to 1901
7. Is the site biased in any way?	No	No
8. Does the site tell you about choices open to you?	Yes- offers many resources for Parents, Teachers and Students	Yes- even has a teacher questionnaire