Lesson Title: Don't Get Tricked by Fake News!

Grade: 6/7

**Lesson Time: 60 minutes** 

| <ul> <li>Core Competencies:</li> <li>Social Responsibility: I can analyze complex social issues from multiple perspectives.</li> <li>Critical Thinking: I can explore and engage with materials and sources.</li> </ul>    | Media sources can both positively and negatively affect our understanding of important events and issues. |
|--|---|
| <ul> <li>Curricular Competencies:</li> <li>Apply criteria to evaluate information and information sources</li> <li>Identify what creators of accounts, narratives, maps or text have determined is significant.</li> </ul> | Content: (What will students know and understand)     Media technologies and coverage of current events   |

## Students will be able to:

- o Describe the issues surrounding the verification of online sources
- o Verify the reliability of a variety of online sources

## **Materials & Technologies:**

- Laptop/computer/device
- o Paper/pen
- o Webpage Credibility Worksheet, see below.

# **Timeline** Lesson: 10 mins Think-pair-share or self-reflection: ✓ Students are asked to silently reflect or share their ideas with a family member/friend: 1. How do you primarily get your news? (social media/online media sites/cable news /newspaper /other) 2. How often do you watch/read/listen to the news? 3. Do you think it's important to pay attention to the news why or why not? 4. How do you know if what you read/hear/listen to in the news is trustworthy? 5. How confident are you that you would know fake news if you saw it? **Activity:** Activity #1: ✓ Watch the following Ted-Ed video: https://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-false-news-can-spreadnoah-tavlin#watch ✓ Complete the 8 follow up questions under the "Think" tab. ✓ Debrief your thoughts with a partner. Activity #2: ✓ Next, play the following game! Find it here, <a href="https://newsliteracy.ca/fakeout/">https://newsliteracy.ca/fakeout/</a>. Can you the spot fake news?

✓ For each question, students write down what they think the news is true or fake?

✓ Students complete the quiz and write down their score.

#### Activity #3:

- ✓ Students re-create the following table on a piece of paper.
- ✓ Students complete the table identifying ways they can distinguish true and fake news.

# Example:

| Fake news looks like                 | True news looks like                |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ The article has grammatical errors | ✓ The article has a credible author |  |

✓ Students review the Webpage Credibility Worksheet and compare the checklist to their table for similarities. \*See attached Checklist below.

# **Assessment/Evaluation:**

 Informal observation of Activity #2. How knowledgeable is the student at identifying fake news?

#### **Adaptations/Modifications:**

• If students cannot complete the table on their own, review the credible checklist instead of completing the table.

## **Extensions:**

- Complete another quiz, Real or Photoshopped: <a href="https://landing.adobe.com/en/na/products/creative-cloud/69308-real-or-photoshop/index.html">https://landing.adobe.com/en/na/products/creative-cloud/69308-real-or-photoshop/index.html</a>
- Students write a short "fake news" story, trying their best to convince someone that there story is real.
- Come up with a solution to prevent the spread of fake news. Example) software, app, etc.. Describe how it would function to stop the spread.

| Name:         |  |
|---------------|--|
| Date:         |  |
| Section/Main: |  |

### Web Page Credibility Checklist

Use this checklist as a guideline to help you decide whether an online source is reliable.

7 or more points: This is probably a reliable source; consider using it.
4-6 points: This might be a good source; try to find out more about it before using it.
3 or less: This is probably not worth including in your sources.

| Circle the number in the column that is the best answer  | Yes     | No/Not Sure |
|--|---------|-------------|
| POSITIVES  | 2.50000 |             |
| I can identify a group or individual responsible for the content on this site.   | 1       | 0           |
| This site is maintained by a person or organization that I know is credible outside of the Internet                                  | 1       | 0           |
| This site has been updated in the past 3 to 6 months   | 1       | 0           |
| This site has external links to other credible websites  | 1       | 0           |
| I know of other credible websites that link to this website  | 1       | 0           |
| This site has a .gov or .edu suffix  | 1       | 0           |
| This site provides a phone number or mailing address that I could use for contacting the person or organization for more information | 1       | 0           |
| I have verified the information on this site using reliable offline resources  | 1       | 0           |
| The main purpose of this site is to provide facts (not opinions)   | 1       | 0           |
| subtotal:  |         | \$31        |
| NEGATIVES  |         |             |
| This site is clearly biased toward a specific opinion or point of view   | -1      | 0           |
| This site contains many misspellings and/or broken links   | -1      | 0           |
| The main purpose of this site is to sell a product or service  | -1      | 0           |
| This site has no external links  | -1      | 0           |
| final total:   |         | ¥8          |