



Mini-Workbook

(Activity to do at home)

News Detective - Mini Anti-Fake News Guide

Learn how to spot fake news and surf the web more intelligently with your parents or other adults in your family.

Estimated Duration: 15-20 minutes

Materials:

- Device with Internet access (smartphone, tablet or computer)
- This guide (printed or displayed)
- Pen (if printed)

STEP 1: The News Under the Microscope (5 minutes)

Together with your parents, choose a news item that you find interesting or a little 'strange' that you have seen online (e.g. on social media, in a chat room, on a website).

Selected News Title:

STEP 2: The Detective Test (10 minutes)

Answer the following questions together, like real detectives! Mark the answer that seems most appropriate with an X.

- **Where does the news come from? (Check the website/page)**

<input type="radio"/> It is a well-known and reliable website/page (e.g. famous newspaper, official body)	
<input type="radio"/> It is a website/page that I am unfamiliar with or that appears unprofessional.	

- **Who wrote it? (Is there a name, an expert?)**

<input type="radio"/> There is a clear and authoritative author or source.	
<input type="radio"/> There is no author, or the author is unknown/generic.	

- **When was it published?**

<input type="radio"/> It is recent news.	
<input type="radio"/> It's old news being repackaged as new.	

- **Is the headline exaggerated or sensationalist? (E.g. 'Unbelievable!', 'Shocking!', 'You won't believe it!')**

<input type="radio"/> No, it's a normal title.	
<input type="radio"/> Yes, it's a title that tries to attract attention with strong words.	

- **Are there any grammar/spelling mistakes?**

<input type="radio"/> No, the text is well written.	
<input type="radio"/> Yes, there are several mistakes.	

- Do the images or videos look real?

<input type="radio"/> Yes, they seem authentic and relevant.	
<input type="radio"/> No, they appear to have been modified or used out of context.	

- How does this news make you feel?

<input type="radio"/> It makes me think, it informs me.	
<input type="radio"/> It makes me feel very angry, afraid or extremely surprised.	

- Do other sources mention it? (Search for the same news item on 2-3 reliable websites, and also using <https://chatgpt.com/g/g-v7FoB0G1M-fact-checker>)

<input type="radio"/> Yes, I also find it on other reputable news sites, or it is reported as true on fact-checking sites.	
<input type="radio"/> No, I only find it on this source or on little-known websites with strange names.	

STEP 3: Your Verdict! (2 minutes)

After answering, what do you think?

We believe this news to be **TRUE/ FALSE** because:



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