




Thinking Critically About Information

Informational Literacy



What is Informational Literacy?

Informational literacy requires that students know...

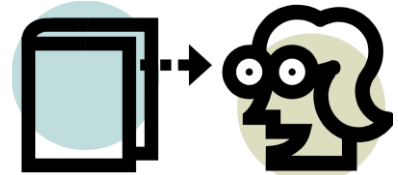
- how to access information
- how to process that information
- how to transfer and communicate that information using communication technologies

Why is Informational Literacy important?

When students develop informational literacy skills they learn to use information to be problem solvers and decision makers. They know where to look and what to look for.

What is critical thinking?

Critical thinking is thinking through a problematic situation and making reasoned judgements.



Using Criteria to Make a Decision

Make a list of items that you will think about when you make your decision.

What criteria do you think about when you:

- decide what to order for take out?
- plan a family vacation?
- decide on a hobby or interest to participate in?

Share with your child the criteria you have on your list when you make these decisions. Create a list together including your criteria and your child's criteria.

At school, your child is asked often to develop criteria in order to make decisions that are related to the curriculum. In kindergarten, your child might be asked to create criteria to decide which shoes are best for winter. In grade 8 your child might be asked to decide the most significant impact humans have on the environment.

When children have experience with problem solving and decision making at home and with everyday events, they carry those experiences to school and are better equipped for learning.

Where do you get information from to make decisions about everyday problems or events?