

# Unit 3

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Reader's Notebook: Evaluating the Net

Using the criteria listed below, evaluate two of these Internet resources:

1. **NASA — For Kids** (<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forkids/kidsclub/flash/#.V4-JXaLqVyE>)
2. **Astronomy for Kids** (<http://www.kidsastronomy.com/>)
3. **Astronomy Magazine — Astro for Kids** (<http://www.astronomy.com/not-found.aspx?item=%2fnews-observing%2fastronomy+kids&user=extranet%5cAnonymous&site=website>)

Use the checklist below to evaluate two websites. Place a check mark in the box next to each criterion if you are satisfied with the point.

Circle which site you are evaluating.

URL:

NASA- For Kids

Astronomy for Kids

Astronomy Magazine- Astro for Kids

- ☐ The site has been updated recently.
- ☐ The author of the site is listed.
- ☐ The author is reputable and explains how he or she specializes in this topic.
- ☐ Information can be verified through another source.
- ☐ The URL extension is reliable (see \* below).
- ☐ The information is free of bias. For example, the information
  - explains other perspectives, if necessary
  - does not try to influence my beliefs by using persuasive words or words that show a strong opinion
  - avoids words like *never*, *always*, *best*, *worst*
- ☐ I can understand the information.
- ☐ The information is about my topic.

URL:

NASA- For Kids

Astronomy for Kids

Astronomy Magazine- Astro for Kids

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  - explains other perspectives, if necessary
  - does not try to influence my beliefs by using persuasive words or words that show a strong opinion
  - avoids words like *never*, *always*, *best*, *worst*
- ☐ I can understand the information.
- ☐ The information is about my topic.

\* **Domain names** containing and ending with **.gov** (government) or **.edu** (university or other educational facility) are usually more reliable than ones ending with **.com** (commercial, business), **.ca** (Canadian commercial, business), or **.org** (non-profit organizations).