



AACPS Digital Citizenship

Lesson Title: Choosing a Search Site

Grade 4

Time: 30 minutes

Overview: Through online observations, students record and compare the features of four children's search sites.

Objectives:

- Identify some children's search sites
- Compare and contrast features of specific search sites
- Explain why it is best to utilize two or more sites when searching for information

Materials:

Activity Sheet: *Choosing a Search Site*

Websites: *Web Resources > Tech Connections:*

Online Databases- Choose any of these: *World Book online, Grolier Online, Culture Grams, SIRS*

Other approved Search Engines:

[KidsClick](#)

[Ask for Kids](#)

[Quintura for Kids](#)

[Cybersleuth Kids](#)

Maryland Technology Literacy Standards for Students (MTLSS)

Standard 5.0 – Technology for Information Use and Management: Students will use technology to locate, evaluate, gather, and organize information.

Activities:

- Tell students that they will compare some children's search sites. Explain that each search site has different features and that they may like some more than others.
- Take students to Web Resources > Tech Connections. Find the title of this lesson, and open its links.
- Assign each student or group of students to one of the search sites to visit.
- Have students answer the questions by checking the boxes for each question.
- Have students report their recorded observations to the rest of the class. If there are discrepancies about the features of a site, revisit the site to resolve them.

- Post the printouts of the search results for "kites." Have students compare the results, noticing that each search engine produced a different list of Web pages.
- Explain that by using more than one search engine, students will have a greater number of sites to visit.
- Have students discuss their answers to "What do you like best about this site?" encouraging the class to identify features that distinguish the sites.

Closure:

- **Ask:** *What are the names of some search sites?* (Ask for Kids®, KidsClick!®, Quintura for Kids®, CyberSleuth Kids and the Online Databases such as World Book Online, Groliers, Culture Grams and SIRS.)
- **Ask:** *In what ways do these search sites differ?* (the ways you can search, how they display results, and the other features/activities they offer)
- **Ask:** *Why is it a good idea to use more than one search site when looking for information?* (Because different sites will give different results.)

Extension:

- Use topics from current Science or Social Studies units. Have students conduct searches and determine the best search sites to use.

Websites in this Lesson:

[KidsClick](http://www.kidsclick.org/) (<http://www.kidsclick.org/>)

[Ask for Kids](http://www.askkids.com/) (<http://www.askkids.com/>)

[Quintura for Kids](http://quinturakids.com/) (<http://quinturakids.com/>)

[Cybersleuth Kids](http://cybersleuth-kids.com/)(<http://cybersleuth-kids.com/>)

Anne Arundel County's Online Databases - <http://opac.aacps.org/> (This resource is provided in the Web Resources folder on the Desktop...Online Databases).

Name _____ Date _____

Choosing a Search Site

Title of Search Site _____

1. How can you search at this site? Check the boxes that apply.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> keyword search | <input type="checkbox"/> subjects by letter | <input type="checkbox"/> ask a question |
| <input type="checkbox"/> advanced search | <input type="checkbox"/> subjects categories | <input type="checkbox"/> picture search |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> sound search |

2. Do a search for information on kites. Print the results page.

What kinds of information are provided?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> site title | <input type="checkbox"/> grade level | <input type="checkbox"/> whether site has illustrations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> summary | <input type="checkbox"/> reading level | <input type="checkbox"/> URL |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> subject questions to ask |

3. What else can you do at this search site?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> search lessons | <input type="checkbox"/> read/respond to message boards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> submit a site | <input type="checkbox"/> read questions from other kids |
| <input type="checkbox"/> get homework help | <input type="checkbox"/> play games |
| <input type="checkbox"/> give and get advice | <input type="checkbox"/> see a movie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> chat | <input type="checkbox"/> read comics |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> other (write on back) |

Be Cyber**Smart!**[®]

Always choose more than one search site because each site will give different results.

4. What do you like best about this search site?
