Be. Live. Stay. Well...

How to tell if the information you find is worth a CRAAP.

Because not everything you read on the Internet is close to factual, use what we call the CRAAP method to telling fact from fiction.

Currency - or the timeliness of the information.
- When was the information published?
- Has it been updated?
- Are links functional?

Relevance - or the importance of the information for your needs.
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information age-appropriate/skill level appropriate?
- Does it answer your question?
- Have you looked at more than one source?

Authority - or the source of the information (who's the author?).
- What are the author's credentials? Are they listed?
- Are they qualified (as best you can tell)?
- Is there contact information?
- Does the URL reveal anything about the source (.com, .edu, .gov, .org, .net)?

Accuracy - or the reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the information presented.
- Where does the information come from?
- Has the information been reviewed by peers (of the author)?
- Can you verify the knowledge using another source or from personal knowledge?
- Does the language seem unbiased?
- Are there spelling errors? Other errors?

Purpose - or the reason the information exists.
- Is it to inform, teach sell, entertain or persuade?
- Do the authors or sponsors make the intentions clear?
- Is the information fact, opinion, or propaganda?
- Are there other biases - such as cultural, political, ideological, etc.?

Source: https://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/

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