**Online Detective Activity**

We have discussed what makes a website trustworthy and now it is time to put our new skills to the test.!

Let’s pretend that you have been given an assignment in your science class to write a research paper about the possibility of Life on Other Planets. Using the “Rule of 3” you will search for at least 3 websites and then determine whether or not the sites you chose are reliable.

**Here are some website examples**

[**http://www.aliensthetruth.com/**](http://www.aliensthetruth.com/)

[**http://hubpages.com/hub/milky-way**](%20http://hubpages.com/hub/milky-way)

[**http://www.dvorak.org/blog/2006/08/02/n**](http://www.dvorak.org/blog/2006/08/02/n)

[**http://www.alicesastroinfo.com/2009/12/answering-questions-life-on-other-planets/**](http://www.alicesastroinfo.com/2009/12/answering-questions-life-on-other-planets/)

**Directions**

For each website you choose consider some of the things that make a website trustworthy. Compare the three websites based on these criteria. For each website answer the following:

Is it clear who wrote the content?

Is the author an expert on the subject?

Is there contact information for the author or website?

What is the domain?

Do you believe the content is true?

Is the evidence presented in a balanced way?

Is all the information included?

If there are advertisements, do they match the subject on the page?

Is there a date the content was created or updated?

Is the subject discussed in depth?

Did you find the information you were looking for?

Does the site have more links and source notations?

Do these links lead to more information?

What is the author trying to convince you of?

Ultimately, is this source good or bad?