Checklist for Evaluating a Website

Stage 3

Title		
URL		
Date Accessed		**Overall Rating:** ❑ **Excellent** ❑ **Good** ❑ **Fair** ❑ **Poor**

AUTHORITY	**Details/Comments**
❑ The author of the site is clearly identified.	
❑ The author has appropriate credentials.	
❑ The publisher of the site is identified.	
❑ The site contains contact information.	
❑ A reputable group has rated the site.	
Tip: *Information experts choose wisely. Check up on authors and sites in online library catalogues and databases.*	

OBJECTIVITY	**Details/Comments**
❑ The purpose of the site is clearly stated.	
❑ The sponsors of the site are clearly identified.	
❑ The intended audience of the site is clear.	
❑ The site is free of bias and stereotyping.	
❑ Advertising does not influence the information.	
Tip: *There are always people behind websites. Determine if these people wish to advocate, inform, or entertain.*	

ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS	**Details/Comments**
❑ The site contains accurate information.	
❑ The site is well researched and documented.	
❑ The site's information can be verified.	
❑ The site's links are reputable and working.	
❑ The site's information is deep and well written.	
Tip: *Start with quality information. Use the School Library Website for sites that model accuracy and depth.*	

CURRENCY	**Details/Comments**
❑ The date that the site was created is given.	
❑ The date that the site was updated is given.	
❑ Key information has been revised recently.	
Tip: *Currency affects accuracy. Check dates on the site to see if the information is current enough for the task.*	

TECHNICALITIES	**Details/Comments**
❑ The site is easy to navigate.	
❑ The site's graphics and layout add to its value.	
Tip: *Looks can be deceiving. Check that animations, frames, colours, and special effects actually inform.*	