**Rubric for The Evaluation of an Education Children’s Academic Website**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Lousy** | **Needs Improvement** | **Meets Expectation** | **Exceptional** | **Pts.** |
| **Authority** | There is no author or sponsor identified.  0 pts | There is an author and a sponsor identified.  4 pts | There is an author identified, who is qualified and credible in the field of information being shared, such as a professional or a professor. There is also information on the sponsor.  6 pts | There is an author identified, who is qualified and credible in the field of information being shared, such as a professional or a professor. There is also information on the sponsor, and a link for further information on either the sponsor or the author.  8 pts | 8 pts |
| **Accuracy** | There are grammatical errors. Though there is information from different sources there are no references.  2 pts | There are no grammatical errors. Though there is information from different sources there are no references.  4 pts | There are no grammatical errors; this is a sign that there are editors and fact checkers.  If information comes from different sources, the references are all listed.  6 pts | There are no grammatical errors; this is a sign that there are editors and fact checkers.  If any, the references listed come from a reliable source that also meets the standards listed in this rubric.  8 pts | 8 pts |
| **Objectivity** | The author seems completely bias and criticizes the opposite side. The author exaggerates and gives false information in order to change the reader’s viewpoint.  0 pts | The author seems completely bias and criticizes the opposite side. However, all of the information is accurate.  4 pts | The author seems bias, however he does not criticize the opposite side, simply shares his or her opinions. The author also shares well-rounded and accurate information.  6 pts | The author does not seem bias. He or she shares well-rounded and accurate information.  8 pts | 8 pts |
| **Currency** | The website has no dates.  0 pts | The website has a date on it, and it dates when it was last updated. The individual articles are not dated. Links on the website are not dated and are no longer accessible.  4 pts | The website has a date on it, and it dates when it was last updated. If there are any articles, every individual article has a date as well. The links on the website are accessible, however, there is no information on the date of those links.  6 pts | The website has a date on it, and it dates when it was last updated. If there are any articles, every individual article has a date as well. Any links on the website are also dated and still accessible.  8 pts | 8 pts |
| **Coverage** | The information on this website is not useful or detailed. The information is also easily found in any other website.  2 pts | The information on this website useful. However, it is not detailed and it is easily found in other websites.  4 pts | The information on this website is useful and in depth, however, it is easily found in other websites.  6 pts | The information on this website is useful and in depth. The website has information that is not easily found in other websites.  8 pts | 8 pts |
| **Font** | The font is less than size 12 or greater than 22. It is written in a font that is not well defined and difficult too understand. The color and the background do not have enough contrast, which makes it difficult to read.  1 pt | The font is less than size 12 or greater than 22.  The font used is well defined but still difficult too understand.  The background and font have enough contrast so that the font is easily visible.  3 pts | The font is less than size 12 or greater than 22.  It is also well defined and clear to understand. The color of the font has enough contrast to the background so that it is easily visible.  4 pts | The font is at least size 12 and no greater than 22. It is also well defined and clear to understand. The color of the font has enough contrast to the background so that it is easily visible.  5 pts | 5 pts |
| **Graphics** | There are no pictures or videos throughout the site.  0 pts | There are 5 or fewer pictures throughout the site.  3 pts | There 6-10 pictures throughout the site, and 1 video  4 pts | There are more than 10 pictures on the site and more than 1 video.  5 pts. | 5 pts |

**Total points: 50**

**Website Evaluation**

Website URL: <http://pbskids.org/>

Children today are very much drawn to technology. Having educational websites can engage children to learning, while also enjoying something they love, technology. It is important for children to have websites to explore that can aid them further in their education. However, it is just as important that these websites are effective, and contain accurate and credible information. There are a few key points to look for when determining whether a website is a good choice as an aid in a child’s education.

The PBS KIDS website is a fantastic example of what a good educational website should include. Under the PBS learning category children can find different articles based on their grade lever or on different subjects. Every article or video you click on also has the author and or sponsor. There seems to be no grammatical errors in the website, or the articles themselves. Also, each article or video has listed references when necessary. The references also come from reliable sources. There is no information that is based only on opinion. All of the information comes from educational facts and studies.

Every article and video is dated and accessible. You can also find the website date, and when it was last updated on the bottom of the page. The information on this website is very useful as an educational tool for children. It includes a lot of useful information that is not always easily found. Though some the information may be easy, its important to keep in mind that after all it is a children’s website, and not all of the information is challenging for an adult. Regardless of that, It all comes from a reliable source and it is easy to navigate through the website. The font used in this website is between the size of 12 and 22 and they have used a standard, simple, easy to read font. Also, the background of the articles is white and the letters are black which makes it easy to read. The homepage is pretty colorful, but they have used a good background to letter color contrast, so that the letters are visible. Lastly, since it is a children’s website, the pictures, videos, and animations are useful to engage the children, and get their attention.

Based on the rubric I put together, I would give the PBS KIDS website a 48 out of 50. The reason being that they met all qualifications for an exceptional website in every area except for the authority section. The website did list the authors, however, I did not see any links for more information on the authors of the articles or the sponsors. Overall, this is still an outstanding website, and I think it is great that it is available not only for students, but also for parents and teachers.

Authority: 6

Accuracy: 8

Objectivity: 8

Currency: 8

Coverage: 8

Font: 8

Graphics: 8