

Two Truths and a Lie	K to Grade 3 – Media literacy and Science Communication
<h2>Lesson Plan</h2>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will learn that sometimes things online can be misleading. Students will develop reasoning and critical thinking skills. Students will learn how to double-check information with trusted sources. 	<p>Overall Expectations</p> <p>Language Curriculum:</p> <p>A1. Transferable Skills demonstrate an understanding of how the seven transferable skills (critical thinking and problem solving; innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship; self-directed learning; collaboration; communication; global citizenship and sustainability; and digital literacy) are used in various language and literacy contexts</p> <p>A2. Digital Media Literacy demonstrate and apply the knowledge and skills needed to interact safely and responsibly in online environments, use digital and media tools to construct knowledge, and demonstrate learning as critical consumers and creators of media</p> <p>C3. Critical Thinking in Literacy apply critical thinking skills to deepen understanding of texts, and analyze how various perspectives and topics are communicated and addressed in a variety of texts, including digital, media, and cultural texts</p> <p>Science and Technology Curriculum:</p> <p>A1. STEM Investigation and Communication Skills use a scientific research process, a scientific experimentation process, and an engineering design process to conduct investigations, following appropriate health and safety procedures</p>
<p>Description</p> <p>Using the game, “Two Truths and a Lie”, students will learn the difference between things that are real, true or fact and things that might be made up, lies, or fiction. They will learn that not everything they see online is true, and they will be given tools to spot misleading information.</p>	

Materials

Access to the internet, with supervision.

Introduction

Students can determine whether something is true or false, but sometimes it can be challenging. Even adults struggle to tell the difference between truth and lies. Think about how you would explain this concept to young students. When creating your 'Two Truths and a Lie' examples, it may be helpful to choose a specific category for the game. There is a **separate handout** with examples you can use, or you could search on Google or ask ChatGPT for ideas that work well with young students.

Action

1. Begin with simple examples to explain what “truth” and “lie” mean. Use objects from your classroom, like:
 - a. “This chair has four legs.” (Truth)
 - b. “Our carpet is shaped like an octopus.” (Lie)
 - i. Be mindful that if you use examples involving colour, students with colour blindness might see things differently.
 - ii. This can serve as an example of how sometimes the truth may not be the same for everyone.
2. Introduce the concept of honesty and dishonesty by reading a story aloud. A good choice is *Pig the Fibber* by Aaron Blabey.
3. Introduce the game “Two Truths and a Lie.” Explain that each student will say two true statements and one lie. The class will then guess which statement is the lie.
4. Model the game by starting with your own example.
5. Choose a category to make it easier for students. For instance, if the category is animals, you could say:
 - a. “Penguins can’t fly.” (Truth)
 - b. “Elephants are smaller than rabbits.” (Lie)
 - c. “Frogs can live in both water and on land.” (Truth)
6. Ask students why they think one statement is a lie. Discuss how they figured it out.
7. After every student has participated, explain that, just like in the game, some things we see on the internet might not be true.
8. Show some kid-friendly images that look too fantastic to be real. (See **Presentation** for examples)
 - a. You could create modified images using Canva or a similar tool.
 - b. Explain how images can be cropped to show a different context, like making a busy place look empty.
9. Teach students how to verify information. Explain that the best way to check if something is true is to double-check with trusted sources. For them, this could be parents or teachers. Ask who they think they can ask if something is real. In some cases, an expert might be helpful. For example:
 - a. Questions about pets? Ask a vet.
 - b. Questions about health? Ask a doctor.

- c. Questions about plants? Ask a gardener or someone at a greenhouse.
- d.

Consolidation/Extension

Extending or scaffolding the activity:

You can extend this activity by using more complex examples for “Two Truths and a Lie.” For instance, personal details can be harder to verify because they might change over time. Someone’s favourite colour today might not be the same tomorrow.

Some facts can be intentionally misleading. For example, the statement “Frogs are always bigger than flies” might seem true, but it’s false. The smallest frog in the world, found in Papua New Guinea, is only 7 mm long, which is smaller than a dime. In contrast, the giant Mydas fly can grow up to 7 cm long with a wingspan of 10 cm, making it larger than some frogs.

Assessment:

To assess your students, observe how they differentiate between truths and lies during the game. Pay attention to how they explain their reasoning. If some students struggle with the concept of something being untrue, revisit the topic with additional examples.

You can also use a reflection activity. Ask students to draw two pictures: one of something that is true and one of something that is untrue. Have them explain how they know the difference.

As a final check, use the included exit ticket exercise to see if students can successfully identify statements that are not true.

Additional Resources

Books:

Pig the Fibber by Aaron Blabey *Carlos le menteur*

Honesty is my Superpower by Alicia Ortega *L'honnêteté est mon super-pouvoir*

The Truth According to Arthur by Tim Hopgood *La vérité selon Arthur*

Franklin Fibs by Paulette Bourgeois *Les p'tits mensonges de Benjamin*

What is misinformation? Let’s break it down | CBC Kids News

<https://youtu.be/wyUrV8BELG4?si=72u8ohK401UuBfji>

Décodeurs | La désinformation expliquée aux enfants

<https://youtu.be/8JW4Pq1IeK8?si=uKvfJQFXWYBWJkgs>

C'est quoi les fake news ? - 1 jour, 1 question

<https://youtu.be/pAa80STbngQ?si=OAIHk72uxo34-KIa>