Source Evaluation

I. Rationale – This lesson is important because it lays the ground work for choosing credible sources and rendering judgements based on quality information.

II. Goals and Objectives
   a. Instructional goals:
      i. After reviewing steps to evaluate sources students will
         1. Evaluate one source using the CRAPP test
         2. Recognize the different levels of source credibility.

III. Essential Question – How do you know the information that you are using is credible? How can you avoid being manipulated and made into a chump?

IV. Procedure
   a. Lesson Introduction – Group discussion: what is the difference between an informed and uninformed opinion?
   b. OPINIONS –
      i. In Critical Thinking, an opinion is an expression of judgment not an expression of taste.
   c. Lesson Development – John Locke’s good, bad, in between ideas. Why we have freedom of information in America. People prone to errors: egocentric, ethnocentric…
   d. Information Literacy- It’s what I do: Information Literacy is the set of skills needed to find, retrieve, analyze, and use information. ETHICALLY
   e. How can you determine whether you are using a credible source? How can you determine that the ideas and information is quality?
      i. CRAPP Test
         1. Currency: The timeliness of the information
         2. Relevance: The importance of the information for your needs.
         3. Authority: The source of the information
         4. Accuracy: The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content.
         5. Purpose: The reason the information exits
   f. Team Challenge
      i. Split class into six groups.
      ii. Using 2 books, 2 articles (peer reviewed, entertainment), 2 websites. Each group analyze the source using the CRAPP test. Report back to class whether the source is: Credible, Questionable, or Terrible. In each case the group must justify answers.

V. Conclusion
   a. Living in the gray
      i. Encourage students to really analyze when a source might be appropriate even if it may not be a ‘gold star’ credible source (Oxford Publishing Company).