

## 10 WAYS TO - SPOT THE TRUTH - FOR OLDER STUDENTS (GRADES 4-8)

Here's a fast, classroom-ready checklist that gives grades 4–8 students ten smart ways to *Spot the Truth* before they like, comment, or share.

One - Check the Source – Ask: Who said it? Is it a trusted website, teacher, or an expert who studies this for a living — or just someone online?

Two - Look for Proof – Real facts usually come with evidence: pictures, videos, or links that can be verified.

Three - Double-Check It – Search the same topic on another site to see if others say the same thing.

Four - Watch for Feelings Tricks – If a post makes you angry, scared, or shocked, pause! Big emotions can hide false information.

Five - Ask an Adult You Trust – A teacher, librarian, or parent can help you check if something is real or not.

Six - Check the Date – Sometimes old stories or videos are reposted to look new. Always check when it was made. The situation may have changed.

Seven - See Who Benefits – Ask: Who gets the candy? (In other words, who gains money, fame, or followers from this post?)

Eight - Spot the Silly Stuff – If a story sounds too weird, too perfect, or too amazing to be real, it probably isn't.

Nine - Read the Whole Thing – Don't just believe the headline. Read (or watch) the whole post before deciding if it's true.

Ten - Use Your Brain, Not Just Your Eyes – Just because it looks real doesn't mean it is real. Pictures and videos can be edited, shown out of context, or AI-made.

If you really want to know whether something is true or false, you have to check multiple reliable sources.

Truth isn't about finding one source that agrees with you — it's about seeing where the weight of credible evidence points. Ten reputable sources that align will always outweigh one source that simply confirms your opinion.