

$$I + Q = S$$

Information

Questioning

Solution



In the stories, I use the formula $I + Q = S$. This helps me to assess the reliability of the information I have been sent.

This is a good way to help your children assess what they see, hear and read online as well as the people they might meet.

Whenever children are presented with information online (texts, links to websites, videos, pictures) you can help them use their detective questioning skills to test how real or true it might be – a safe solution.

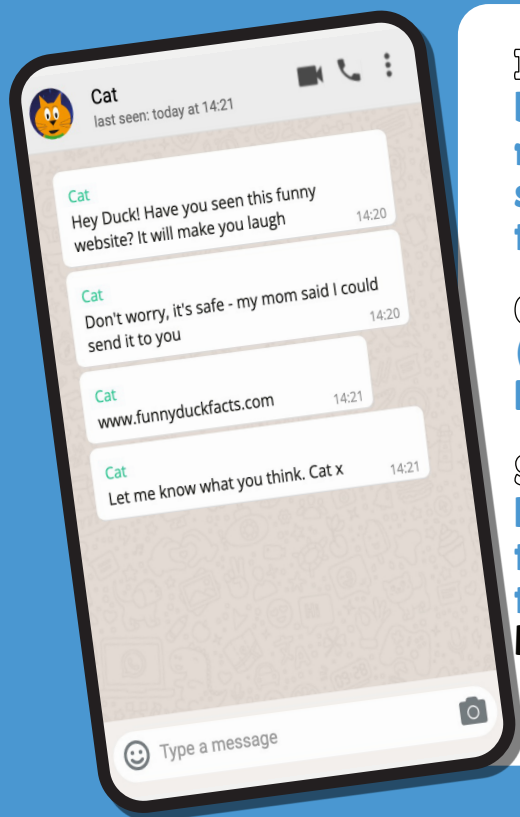
You could use the **3Ws** to help your questioning – **Who, what, why.**

Who – who has sent it or created it? Can they be trusted? Do I know them?

What – what is the content trying to do? Is it harmful to someone, including myself? Or is it just silly and perhaps sent for a joke?

Why – why might the person have sent it? What is their motivation? Do they have my best interests at heart?





I = this is a funny website. We should still be careful when clicking on links but Cat's mom has said it's ok. I could still do a search of the URL before clicking on it just to check.

Q = **who** (sent by Cat, Duck's friend), **what** (a funny website), **why** (for fun - to make Duck laugh).

S = this looks safe and ok to click on. However, questions should still be asked of the facts on the website - how true are they? They could still be **MISINFORMATION**.



I = you may have come across this be accident or been sent a link to it. The title just doesn't feel right ...

Q = **who** (we don't know, they are anonymous), **what** (a blog which seems to be directing hate at a certain group, chickens), **why** (it seems like it's trying to convince people to believe in something they might not actually believe in).

S = this looks like **DISINFORMATION** and this definitely needs parent or carer support and to be reported.

Helping your child to develop their questioning, their digital detective skills, can help them arrive at a safe solution.

These solutions should also involve you - talking to a trusted adult, including parents and carers, is vital. Children should not have to face online issues alone.

