



# BIG6™ INSTRUCTIONAL UNIT DESIGN TEMPLATE

<b>Unit Title: Legislative Branch and Website Evaluation</b>	
<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Grade Level:</b> 9 – 12 grade
<b>Subject/Topic Areas:</b> Government / Civics	<b>Number of Periods:</b>
<b>Key Words:</b> Legislative Branch, Website Evaluation	<b>Level:</b> High School
<b>Evaluation Method:</b> Class Presentation and Learning Guide	<b>Calendar Quarter:</b>
<b>Primary Teaching Method:</b> Direct Instruction	<b>School:</b>

**Rationale: What do you want students to know, do and be like when they finish this unit of study?**

The students will:

1. Know how to evaluate legislative resources online.
2. Demonstrate website evaluation using C.A.R.S. by presenting a website evaluation class presentation and completing the learning guide.
3. Actively consider website credibility.

**Overview: Summarize the nature and scope of the unit.**

This lesson is a collaborative effort with the civics/government teacher's legislative branch unit. To help students complete necessary research for projects assigned during this unit, the students will receive an introduction into website evaluation. A PowerPoint presentation using the C.A.R.S. method and the attached learning guide will assist students in learning this skill.

**What BIG question(s) will guide this unit and focus teaching and learning?**

What is a good website on the legislative branch?

**Content Objectives:**

(Dependent on state core)

Students will demonstrate understanding of the United States government's branches – including the legislative branch.

**BIG6 Objectives:**

Location and Access:

- C. Locate and use appropriate information through the internet.

Use of Information:

- G. Analyze and filter electronic information in relation to a task, and reject information that is not relevant or credible.

<b>Big6™ Skill</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsibility (Teacher/LMS)</b>
<b>Task Definition</b>	Find, evaluate and present a website dealing with the legislative branch.	Teacher will instruct students offering them an overview of the legislative branch.  Librarian will instruct students about website evaluation techniques.
<b>Information Seeking Strategy</b>	Students will construct their own search strategy asking for assistance when needed.	Teacher and librarian will guide students during internet search.
<b>Location and Access</b>	Using an internet search engine, students will find an appropriate legislative resource.	Teacher and librarian will guide students during internet search.
<b>Use of Information</b>	Students will evaluate a website according to the C.A.R.S. method.	Librarian will offer advice and a learning guide to assist students in their evaluation.
<b>Synthesis</b>	Students will present a website they found and its evaluation to the class.	Teacher and librarian will assist students in projecting their chosen website for presentation.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Students will complete the learning guide and preform their own research for the teacher's assignment.	Teacher will assign research assignment.  Librarian will assist students during research and collect completed learning guides.

Berkowitz, R.E. (2010). "Big6 and Instructional Design" Webinar, 10/12/2010. All rights reserved. Big6 is © Eisenberg & Berkowitz (1987). [www.big6.com](http://www.big6.com); Onsite Big6 workshops are available all year. For price and availability, email: [info@big6.com](mailto:info@big6.com)

### How will students demonstrate what they have learned?

#### Task Overview

- Find a website on the legislative branch (congress, bills, legislators)
- Evaluate it using the C.A.R.S. method
- Share your website with the class
- Explain your evaluation of the website to the class
- Complete the learning guide

### Evaluation: What evidence will show that students understand?

Students will present to the class their website on the legislative branch and their evaluation using the C.A.R.S. method.

Students will complete the learning guide discussing their learning during this activity.

### Teaching Materials:

PowerPoint on website evaluation

Copies of the learning guide

Equipment for showing the presentation

**Resources:**

Barret, K. (n. d.). What are the roles of the legislative branch of the United States government? eHow.com. Retrieved October 19, 2013, from [http://www.ehow.com/list\\_6908069\\_roles-branch-united-states-government\\_.html](http://www.ehow.com/list_6908069_roles-branch-united-states-government_.html)

Bluetooth, (Yahoo! username). (2006). I have a question about the Legislative Branch? answers.yahoo.com. Retrieved October 19, 2013, from <http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20070509153208AAmd9Cd>

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Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office (2007, February 7). Ben's guide to U.S. government for kids. bensguide.gpo.gov. Retrieved October 19, 2013, from <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/9-12/government/national/legislative.html>

**Learning Activities: (Describe the sequence of teaching and learning activities.)**

1. Teacher presents an overview of the legislative branch to students and explains their upcoming research assignment.
2. The teacher sets up library class time and bring students to the library.
3. The librarian presents website evaluation C.A.R.S. method to students.
4. Students break into groups of 2 – 3 to exhibit understanding of website evaluation.
5. Students find a website on the legislative branch.
6. Students evaluate the website according to C.A.R.S.
7. Students present their website and evaluation to the class.
8. Students complete the learning guide and turn it in to the librarian.
9. Students start their research on the legislative branch.

# Learning Guide

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

## Website Evaluation

### Notes

<b>C</b>	Credibility	
<b>A</b>	Accuracy	
<b>R</b>	Reasonableness	
<b>S</b>	Support	

Website URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Website Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Website Author: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>C</b>	Credibility	Is the site credible? How do you know?
<b>A</b>	Accuracy	Is the site accurate? How do you know?
<b>R</b>	Reasonableness	Is the site reasonable? How do you know?
<b>S</b>	Support	Is the site supported? How do you know?

1. How do you feel your website evaluation went?

2. What can website evaluation do for you?

3. What will you do differently now you know how to do website evaluation?