



Stay Smart Online

News Literacy Presentation for Seniors

Summer/Fall 2026

Stay Smart Online is a slide presentation designed to help people become more confident and thoughtful consumers of information online. It introduces the **SIFT method**, a practical four-step approach for evaluating information before believing or sharing it.

The presentation begins with **Stop**, encouraging participants to pause before reacting to online content, recognize emotional triggers, and take a few seconds to think critically.

Investigate the Source teaches users to identify who published information, assess credibility, recognize look-alike websites, and understand what domain names can reveal.

Find Additional Sources emphasizes comparing multiple perspectives rather than relying on a single story or favorite source. Participants are introduced to tools such as Google News and Ground News and practice comparing coverage. **Trace Claims** encourages users to follow information back to its original source, use smartphone tools, fact-check questionable claims, and recognize common misleading techniques.

A **Smartphone Toolbox** provides hands-on instruction with tools including Google Lens, QR codes, and fact-checking websites. The final section focuses on everyday habits for becoming a smarter digital citizen, including serving as a fact-checker within one's family and resisting the urge to share information when its accuracy is uncertain.



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