Important to know:

Intent, Credibility, and Reliability of the sources.

**Use the “CRAAP” - TEST**

**C – Currency**  
*When was the information published? Does it look like current information?*

**R – Relevance**  
*Is the information relevant to your topic and appropriate for a research paper? Who is the intended audience?*

**A – Authority**  
*Who is the author? Is he/she an expert in his field and what are his/her credentials?*

**A – Accuracy**  
*Is the information supported by evidence? Has it been reviewed or refereed? Is the information bias and are there spelling and/or grammatical errors?*

**P – Purpose**  
*What is the purpose (intent) of the information? Is it factual? Opinion? Propaganda?*

**Domain Names**

- .com - commercial
- .org - organization
- .gov - government
- .edu - education
- .net - network

**Blogs – web logs** - many are .com
EVALUATING INFORMATION ON THE WEB

Important:
Anyone can buy a domain!!!
It’s important to look for clues to a site’s credibility!!!

Clues:

- URL (web address)
- Listing of author and institution that published
- Contact data
- Author credentials
- Accurate information; limited advertising
- Current and updated regularly; including the provided links
- Viewing the page properly (well-designed; readable content ...)
- Sponsors (who)?
- Scholarly or popular site?

Conclusion:

Is the site a reliable, well-documented source of information from a reputable author or organization?

Is this a good source of information for a research paper?

Questionnaire as a helpful tool for the evaluation of websites:
(Juniata College / Huntigdon, Pennsylvania, U.S.)

http://legacy.juniata.edu/services/library/instruction/handouts/craap_worksheet.pdf