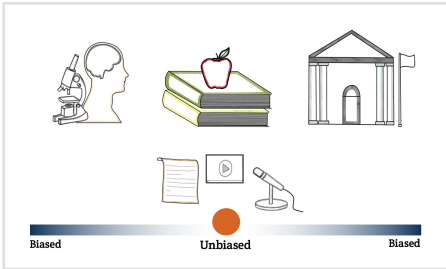


## Lesson Plan

This lesson plan is designed to help you teach using a Common Craft video. Use the information below to introduce the video and then follow the video with discussion questions and other resources.



[commoncraft.com/video/bias-detection](https://commoncraft.com/video/bias-detection)

**ISTE Standard:**

**Knowledge Constructor,  
Indicator 3b**

**ACRL Info Literacy Frame:**

**Authority is Constructed and  
Contextual**

# Bias Detection

Explained by Common Craft

An essential skill is being able to find and use high quality information. Part of this is detecting bias in media. By understanding the role that bias plays in media, we can use articles, interviews, videos and more with greater integrity.

## Learning Outcomes

- Define what it means to be biased and identify common situations where an individual may be biased
- Explain when it is important to use unbiased information
- Evaluate a source for bias by looking at the author(s), language, and citations

## Discussion Questions

### Q #1

Describe a situation where having bias may be helpful. Describe a situation where it may be harmful.

### Q #2

Why is it essential to use unbiased information when making important decisions?

### Q #3

When writing a research paper, in what ways could it hurt your credibility as an author if you use biased information?

## Knowledge Check Q&A

**Q**

The author of an article earns money by promoting one idea over another. Is the article biased?

**A**

It may be.

**Q**

The author of an article provides only one way to think about a subject and ignores key information or perspectives that does not fit with his own. Is the article biased?

**A**

Yes.

**Q**

If the sources cited in an article are biased, is the article biased?

**A**

It may be.

**Q**

An article uses insulting language and buzzwords. It uses examples that only appeal to one side of the story. Is the article biased?

**A**

Yes.

## Resources for Learning More

### UC Santa Cruz Library

“Evaluate the quality and credibility of your sources”

11/16/2016

<http://library.ucsc.edu/help/research/evaluate-the-quality-and-credibility-of-your-sources>

### Pennsylvania Board of Education

“Seven forms of bias” 8/2013

<http://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/K-12/>

[Career%20and%20Technical%20Education/Perkins/Seven%20Forms%20of%20Bias.pdf](http://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/K-12/Career%20and%20Technical%20Education/Perkins/Seven%20Forms%20of%20Bias.pdf)

### TedTalk

Alisa Miller

“How the news distorts our worldview” 3/2008

[alisa\\_miller\\_shares\\_the\\_news\\_about\\_the\\_news](https://www.ted.com/talks/alisa_miller_shares_the_news_about_the_news)

### Morning Edition

“Bias isn’t just a police problem, it’s a preschool problem”

9/28/2016

<http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2016/09/28/495488716/bias-isnt-just-a-police-problem-its-a-preschool-problem>

### New York Times

Liz Spayd

“Why readers see the times as being liberal” 7/24/2016

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/24/public-editor/liz-spayd-the-new-york-times-public-editor.html>