

Presenters: Christina Heady & Joshua Vossler, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale

TOPIC: Peer Review

Learning Objective: SWBAT...Find scholarly articles in a library database.

Materials: A collection of 30 true and false statements.

Lesson Outline/Procedure:

Time	Activity
5 Minutes	Opening: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome and self-introduction.• Show Ask a Librarian• Ask students if they know about their assignment
10-15 minutes [Presentation Portion for CARLI Instruction Showcase]	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Hand each student one fact. (2 minutes)2. Divide students into small groups. Three per group is ideal. (2 minutes)3. Give students activity instructions (1 minute):<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Read the fact to yourself.b. If you think it is true, pass it to your left.c. If you think it is false, place it face-down on the table in front of you.d. Once everyone in the group has read and accepted or rejected each fact, raise your hand and I'll come collect them.4. Give students time to read and accept or reject the facts. Collect all the facts as each group finishes but keep the accepted and rejected piles separate. (5 minutes)5. Count the facts that students decided were true. Share the number with the class.6. The big reveal! (5 minutes)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Explain the activity to the students: "What you just did is basically peer review, which is the process that scholarly articles go through before they can be published. Real peer review is much more complicated than right and wrong, and real research is rarely this cut and dried. This exercise shows one of the many advantages of peer review: weeding out research that's obviously crazy. Which you all did a pretty good job at."b. Read 1-3 examples of crazy false facts that made it through. Explain that when the really crazy stuff is already gone, what you're left with might not be perfect, but it's pretty good. And that saves time. When you're searching in library databases, you don't have to worry about whether or not an article you found is crazy; peer-reviewers already did that for you. They also checked the methodology and other useful things that you might not have the time to do for yourself.
15 minutes	Lecture: Combine this activity with searching for scholarly articles in a general, multidisciplinary, database.
10-15 Minutes	Have students search for articles on their topics.
1 minute	Closing: Ask for any questions & thank students for being here

Assessment of student learning:

- Informal: take note while walking around the classroom if students are able to limit and identify scholarly, peer-reviewed, sources.
- Formal: Create an activity in SurveyMonkey, or any other survey creation tool, and embed it in a research guide to double as a formal assessment. Ask students to copy and paste in the citation for at least one scholarly, peer reviewed, article they find.

Knowledge Practices/Dispositions: Authority is Constructed and Contextual: Use research tools and indicators of authority to determine the credibility of sources, understanding the elements that might temper this credibility;

Peer Review Activity

TRUE:

Drunk driving is dangerous and should be avoided whenever possible.

Alcohol use during pregnancy can lead to birth defects, some of them severe.

Some sexually transmitted infections can cause cancer.

In the Middle Ages, the pages of many books were made out of sheep skin.

Hippopotamuses will spin their tails while they poop in order to create a spray of fecal matter.

Southern Illinois is home to the northernmost Cyprus swamp in the United States.

A derecho is a wide, straight-line wind storm that can be destructive.

The average human adult has 32 teeth.

The first iPhone was released in 2007.

Based on the number of people they hurt, moose are the most dangerous mammals in North America.

The moon orbits the Earth.

Lightning does indeed sometimes strike two or more times in the same place.

Tritium is a radioactive isotope of hydrogen.

CRAZY:

Doctors shouldn't wash their hands after doing autopsies before delivering babies because it wastes time.

Cockroaches, especially live ones that live in the city dump, are tasty and sanitary snacks.

Human adults usually have 79 teeth, many of them in their heads.

If you have green eyes, sharks will come at night and bite you in your bed.

The sun, as well as all of the stars, revolve around the Earth.

The aquatic monkey that lives in your toilet wants you to learn yoga.

You should drink at least two gallons of milk every day, and three gallons if you plan to exercise.

Toothpaste is made out of ground up beaver teeth.

The fluoride in drinking water lets the government control your mind.

Time travel is very dangerous.

Arsenic is the primary ingredient in Coca-Cola.

Sasquatch are the most gentle and intelligent primates.