

WEB SITE EVALUATION SHEET

Name of site:	Web Monkey for Kids	URL (site address):	http://www.hotwired.lycos.com/webmonkey/kids
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Reviewed By:	Simon Baylor and Amer Mohiuddin	Date of Review	01/10/01
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Subject/Curriculum Area And relevance:	Information Technology ICT Unit 9 (Year 8)	Age Range:	
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Ease of use: Is there a logical, coherent structure? Are the contents of the site clearly displayed? Is there an index/search facility? Is navigation within the site easy or hard?	The site is logical and Coherent Structured as it give young people the opportunities to go straight to the section(s) they want to learn about with regards to web pages. It also has a beginning section on the site explaining what the internet is about (for those that do not know), right though to how to get a web page up on the net.
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Content: Is the material appropriate for the target audience? What would teachers need to know in order to use this product effectively? Is the information reliable and valid (who are the authors?) Is there a sufficient breadth and depth of information? Are there underlying values it reflects: green issues, British views, gender and ethnicity? Is the material current up to date? When was the site last updated?	The material on the site is very appropriate as it is aimed at children, which is the site intended audience. In terms of teachers knowledge then I believe a teacher will have to know about various type of web designing software and have a working knowledge of at least one of them. With regards to validation of information then again I would say this is a very hard point to prove. In terms of breath and depth then there is a good mix on this site. Overall they are 4 main areas to look at and they are: Lessons, Projects, Playground and Tools. From looking the site I don't believe there are any underlying values as the site is aimed at children of any kind. Overall I don't believe there are any underlying values on this site.
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Design/Presentation: Does the layout grab your attention? Is it simple and effective or too 'busy'? Do graphics and text appear quickly on the page or is there a long wait? Is there a good balance of text and graphic/video? Are there good links to other sites?	Design wise this site is really aimed at children who have various type of knowledge regarding designing a web page. You can tell this by the bright colours and animation that is used. In terms of the context of the next page appearing once you have click on a link then this is a bit slow and can do with a bit more of speeding up. Overall though there is a good balance between text and pictures' use on this site
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Interactive features: **LOW** - browsing and reading only **MEDIUM** - with some tasks but only 'click and reveal' **HIGH** - tasks involve forms/multi-choice with answers, e-mail access to authors **VERY HIGH** - communication, active participation

Utility:

How could you incorporate this site into a lesson? **Is it a single lesson idea or activity or is it linked as part of a set?** Could you get the information more quickly from another source?

In order to incorporate this site into a lesson plan I would just actually use the site itself to explain the basics of internet web page instead of trying to change it. Overall I believe this site could be used over a series of lessons.
In saying this however I think they might be a better website with slightly more in depth detail on creating a web page but for kids this is not a bad start.

Marks out of 10:	7	Would you recommend to other teachers?	Yes
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