



News  
Literacy  
Project

# For a future founded on facts



"I'm convinced the News Literacy Project is one of the most important public service organizations in the nation."

— Pierre Thomas, ABC News senior Justice correspondent

## What Is News Literacy?

**News literacy is the ability to judge whether news and other information is trustworthy.** It is a key life skill and an important part of any media literacy, digital literacy or civics education program. It helps students to:

- Understand why a **free press** matters in a democracy.
- Tell the difference between **reliable news** and false or misleading information.
- Spot their own **bias** and look for **facts** — not just information that supports what they already believe.
- Use **credible information** to make **informed choices** in their everyday lives.

## NLP is the nation's leading provider of news literacy education.

## Our Mission

The News Literacy Project advances the development and teaching of news literacy in K-12 education.

## Our Vision

All students in the United States are skilled in news literacy before they graduate from high school, preparing them to think critically and independently as active participants in society.



**The value of our work can be seen in the bipartisan support we receive:**

"[NLP is doing] great work ... building new tools to help people separate fact from fiction."

— **Former President Barack Obama, in an April 2022 speech at Stanford University on the threat of disinformation**

"[NLP is] dedicated to making students smart, active consumers of news and information."

— **Former President George W. Bush's Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, in a USA Today op-ed in December 2021**

## The Challenge



**False and misleading information is everywhere — and it is causing real harm.**

It divides communities, erodes trust and makes it harder to know what is factual. Current learning standards don't always prioritize critical thinking, sorting facts from falsehoods or finding common ground across differences. And because most states don't require news literacy education, students are left without the skills they need — in school, at work and in their daily lives.



## The Solution

**We believe every student should learn news literacy, just as they do math or English. That is why our goal is bold and ambitious: Make news literacy part of required learning nationwide. As the leader in this field, NLP has the experience and reach to help make this a reality.**

Students who learn news literacy in middle and high school know how to spot false or misleading content, identify credible sources and think carefully about the information they use. These skills help them push back against misinformation and make informed choices that shape their futures — and our society.

## Our Goals by 2028

*\*More than one third of all U.S. public school districts*

**3.5 million students**

will have been taught news literacy skills (since 2016) using NLP's resources.

**At least 20,000 educators**

will use NLP resources in the classroom each year.

**5,820 districts\***

each year use NLP resources to teach news literacy.

For more, read our strategic framework: [newslit.org/strategic-framework](https://newslit.org/strategic-framework)



Now available on Clever !

# checkology®

The **Checkology® virtual classroom** is a one-stop shop for teaching news literacy where educators can find ready-to-use tools that help students think critically and stay curious.

The digital platform offers interactive lessons on subjects like news media bias, misinformation, and conspiratorial thinking, as well as a host of infographics, lesson plans, instructional supports and more! Checkology helps students think independently and ask smart questions about what they read, watch or hear.

“With Checkology I learned about the First Amendment, journalistic integrity, deciphering sources. I’m more news-literate after this year. I think that does empower me.”

— Neveah Rice,  
high school student,  
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania

FREE!

## 20 interactive lessons

(plus a Spanish-language version of “Practicing Quality Journalism.”)

### Impact of Checkology

After completing Checkology lessons during the 2024-25 school year:

82%



of students identified the more credible of two articles on the same topic from two different sources — **a gain of 23 percentage points** from before they started Checkology.

88%



of students recognized when a social media post failed to provide credible evidence — **a gain of 20 percentage points** from before they started Checkology.

81%



of students recognized that a free press is very important to a healthy democracy — **a gain of 17 percentage points** from before they started Checkology.

The  
**Sift**®

**The Sift**, our newsletter for educators delivered weekly during the school year, explores timely examples of misinformation and includes classroom discussion prompts and activities.

The  
**Insider**...

**The Insider**, our monthly educator update, offers teachers useful classroom tools and tips, our latest news, important milestones, initiatives and opportunities.

scroll  
smarter



**Scroll Smarter**, a monthly newsletter, offers family-friendly tips, tools and conversation starters on topics like social media, influencers, algorithms, AI and false rumors.



Visit [newsliit.org/subscribe](https://newsliit.org/subscribe) to subscribe to our newsletters, including our quarterly organizational update **Insights & Impact**.





NLP's rumor-debunking digital resource ([RumorGuard.org](https://RumorGuard.org)) helps people learn to recognize misinformation and stop it in its tracks. RumorGuard fact-checks timely examples of viral content and provides users with the ability to evaluate their credibility.



**RumorGuard™ emails** are weekly alerts explaining viral rumors, designed to help educators teach students to recognize misinformation.

## NATIONAL NEWS LITERACY WEEK

This annual event, held in partnership with The E.W. Scripps Company and USA Today, underscores the vital role of news literacy in a democracy and engages educators, students, journalists and the public.

**FEB. 2-6, 2026**

[NewsLiteracyWeek.org](https://NewsLiteracyWeek.org)



## Education Partnerships

NLP partners with school districts, local education agencies and state departments of education for the successful implementation of our free resources, including Checkology. We meet districts where they are by developing partnerships at varying levels.

For more information, contact [edpartnerships@newslit.org](mailto:edpartnerships@newslit.org).

### District Fellowship Program

The News Literacy District Fellowship is a three-year program that helps school district leaders create strong and lasting news and media literacy programs. The goal is to make sure all students in the district learn how to understand and think critically about the news. NLP supports districts through professional learning, help with lesson planning, and a network of like-minded peers.

For more information, visit [newslit.org/district-fellowship](https://newslit.org/district-fellowship).

“If this was in every classroom and every school in our state or in our country, it would literally change how our world goes around. I think the impact would be beyond significant.”

– **Katie Gallagher, District Technology Integration Specialist, Gunnison Watershed School District, Colorado**

### Professional Learning

NLP offers professional learning through webinars and in person at conferences or other events. Customized professional learning is offered for a fee.

To learn more, contact [learning@newslit.org](mailto:learning@newslit.org).





## Learn more

In 2008, the **News Literacy Project** helped establish the field of news literacy education, and nearly 20 years later it still leads the way. As a trusted partner to educators and school districts in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, NLP provides free resources that students need in a world where facts compete with misinformation.

For more information, visit [newslit.org](https://newslit.org) or contact us at [info@newslit.org](mailto:info@newslit.org).

## Join us!

Support our vision for a future founded on facts at [newslit.org/donate](https://newslit.org/donate).



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