


Instructions

Step 1: Evaluate two websites

- **Select two websites** related to the topic that you may be considering for your final project.
- Using the [Web Site Evaluation Form](#),  **critically compare** the two websites.

Step 2: Create an Evaluation Report

Summary: You will create an evaluation report using headings, complete sentences (without spelling/grammar errors, etc...) to discuss the design and layout for each of the two sites that you selected. You will use the website evaluation form as the data for your evaluation report, but should write it as a text summary of what you observed from critically comparing the two sites. This report will be approximately 500 - 750 words in length.

Sections to include in the evaluation report:

- **Introduction**

I plan to create a website for my 5th grade students for my final project. The website will contain updates on class activities, important reminders and class resources. I hope by creating one central location for my students to access everything they need, they will develop independence and initiative with their learning and responsibilities. I reviewed several 5th grade websites searched on Google and decided to evaluate:

Mercury Mine 5th Grade : <https://sites.google.com/a/pvlearners.net/mmes-5th-grade/>

LHP 5th Grade: <https://www.lhp5thgrade.com/>

- **Compare and contrast the sites** Identify both the similarities and differences between the sites. Be sure you describe the features that you like and don't like based on your review

Similarities

Both websites are set up with the intended audience as a 5th grader or their family. Both sites contain top navigation tabs linking important pages. They also both contain information about important due dates and upcoming events that will be helpful for students/parents to know about. The sites also use an appropriate font size/style and color scheme that is neutral. It appears that both sites accomplish their goal of sharing important links and information with the students and their families.

Differences

While the content and intentions of both sites remain similar, it is clear to see that the LHP 5th grade site is much more advanced, well organized and aesthetically pleasing than the Mercury Mine 5th Grade site. The Mercury Mine site has so many links in the toolbar that it appears overwhelming. In addition, it doesn't seem to be a clear theme or consistency with the font selection or color scheme. The LHP site categorizes the pages into 5 toolbar links along with subject links on the main page that don't appear cluttered or distracting. The LHP site has a consistent font and color scheme that makes navigating the site easy and pleasing. The LHP definitely appears to be more user friendly for 5th graders or even their families.

- **Identification of the strengths and weaknesses of each site.** Ensure you use concrete examples to justify your reasoning - When you discuss certain parts of the website, ensure that your reference is clear, or you can provide an example of poor/good design.

Mercury Mine Strength:

The strength of the Mercury Mine site is that it contains links to many sites and resources needed by the 5th graders. It is clear that the site was created with multiple purposes. The site contains everything from the schedule to important dates to homework assignments and even class/school links. The 5th graders should be able to use this site as a hub for every resource necessary.

Mercury Mine Weakness:

The weakness of the Mercury Mine site is that the site contains so much information and so many links in an unorganized fashion. The color scheme and font selection make for some awkward formatting issues. In addition, there are so many links tagged in the top toolbar that it appears overwhelming. This site could use some restructuring with the overall layout of pages and how the information is presented. The Mercury Mine site contains plenty of information and its effectiveness could be enhanced with some reorganization.

LHP Strength

The strengths of the LHP site is that it is so well organized and visually appealing that students and adults should have no trouble finding any resources necessary. In addition, the site contains useful links for learning with each subject/unit. It also includes links to student work and projects created in 5th grade. Having access to this information is excellent for students and parents because the students can find everything they need for class and the parents are able to use this site to support their children at home.

LHP Weakness

The Homepage of the LHP website appears to be the biggest weakness to me. All of the information on the site seems to be well organized and thought out except for the homepage. The *Science Book Study*, *Mannequin Challenge*, and the *March Madness Championship* photos appear out of place and random for the homepage. Cleaning up this content would make the homepage look more focused and less cluttered. The site design is strong overall but could use just a few minor adjustments on the homepage.

- Describe 2 scenarios (use cases) in which the website might be used by different people.

I intend for my site to be a central location for my students to receive and be reminded about class and school activities. I plan to include a calendar, daily schedule and info about upcoming events. Students should have a basic understanding of all upcoming events and assignments by visiting the website.

I also plan for my students to visit my site to find links to important resources and apps that will be useful to complete projects. I want this website to link students to content that will build their learning while providing them with resources to be successful with their work.

[Sarah Kramer](#)

[Sarah Kramer](#)

Yesterday

Jun 15 at 5:47pm

[Manage Discussion Entry](#)

Hi Kevin,

I agree with your strengths and weaknesses of the sites you reviewed. It is very clear that MM has a need in the area of organization and fluidity in the site and that as organized as the LHP site is, that some of the images appear out of context.

I think that you have a great idea for a student site that will support the work of the classroom and also inform parents and students alike of schedules, activities and upcoming dates. Are you thinking your calendar would be its own page or apart of a page with similar general information details pertaining to your class logistics? Do you think you will create a spot for student work samples or comments for students to leave? Are you wanting your lay out to feel more like LHP or MM? The LHP page certainly looks like perhaps they paid for a site that helped them build the content and pick a theme where as perhaps the MM page wrote their own content.

I think this is a great idea and somewhat similar to what I had in mind as well. With a lot of resources spread out, it's a great idea to bring them together for students to access with ease.