

Reaching for Resources for TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: IT'S ALIVE!

Teachers & Librarians,

There are so many sources of information in today's world. Newspapers, magazines, television, social media, websites, and more present us with information! When students hear a story about a startling new discovery or a strange creature that is being studied, do they ever wonder if it is *really* true?

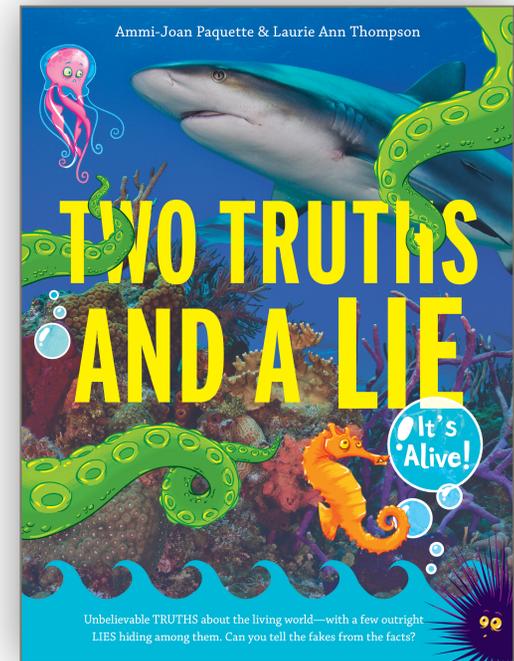
The authors of **TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: IT'S ALIVE!** (Walden Pond Press) are challenging readers to check the validity of sources in this fun, engaging book. Three non-fiction topics are introduced in each section of the book. Two of those stories are valid scientific topics and one is an invented topic, often the topic of an online hoax. As a school librarian with a passion for STEM topics, I saw this book as an opportunity both to explore interesting stories and to develop crucial information literacy skills.

Reaching for Resources provides you with links to explore with students. The resources give students a chance to dig deeper into one of the topics from the book and determine the validity of the sources. Invite students to investigate who wrote each article and why. Give them the chance to compare and cross-check the information before making their final decision on whether the stories in **TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: IT'S ALIVE!** are a truth or a lie. You may give each student a different topic to explore and then report back to the class, or you may prefer to have them work in small groups with each member checking on one link and then everyone comparing their results to reach a group verdict about their assigned topic. Either way, they will be looking at the information with a critical eye, which is how you want them to approach any source they use.

These websites are also arranged in a student worksheet form in **What's Your Source?**. That free downloadable activity and the rationale, curriculum connections, and grading rubric for the activity can be found by searching "two truths" at CuriousCityDPW.com.

Suzanne Costner

Library Media Specialist
Elementary School STEM Coordinator
C.A.P. National Aerospace Education Teacher of the Year



* Indicates a general search option for a false piece of information.

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Chapter 1: Crazy Plants

A. Underground Miracle Root

The Atlas Obscura*: <http://www.atlasobscura.com/>
Ayur Times: <https://www.ayurtimes.com/chinese-fleece-flower/>
The National Gardening Association: <https://garden.org/plants/>
Encyclopedia Britannica*: <https://www.britannica.com/>

B. Pandomonium

USDA Forest Service: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/fishlake/home/?cid=STELPRDB5393641>
Discover Magazine: <http://discovermagazine.com/1993/oct/thetremblinggian285>
American Forests: <http://www.americanforests.org/magazine/article/aspens-in-a-changing-world/>
National Park Service: Bryce Canyon: <https://www.nps.gov/brca/index.htm>
Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/plant/aspens-plant>

C. The Secret Lives of Plants

African Safari Consultants: <https://www.africansafaris.com/acacias-v-giraffes-a-uniquely-african-tussle/>
AFK Travel: <https://afktravel.com/>
U.C. Davis Dept. of Entomology and Nematology:
http://entomology.ucdavis.edu/News/Rick_Karban_Kin_Recognition_Affects_Plant_Communication_and_Defense/
New Scientist: <https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg12717361.200-antelope-activate-the-acacias-alarm-system/>
Scientific American: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/mother-plants-tell-their-seeds-when-to-sprout/>
USDA Ag Research: <https://agresearchmag.ars.usda.gov/1998/oct/sos/>

Chapter 2: Creepy Plants (and Fungi)

A. The Flowery Smell of Death

The United States Botanic Garden: <https://www.nps.gov/brca/index.htm>
Living on Earth: <http://www.loe.org/shows/segments.html?programID=13-P13-00005&segmentID=7>
LiveScience: <https://www.livescience.com/51947-corpse-flower-facts-about-the-smelly-plant.html>
USA Today: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/08/17/corpse-flower-denver-colorado-facts/31884919/>
National Geographic: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/09/150930-stinky-corpse-flower-chicago-botanic-garden-blooms/>

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B. Eyes Watching from the Darkness

Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/animal/lacewing>

Mississippi State University: <http://extension.msstate.edu/newsletters/bugs-eye-view/2016/debris-carrying-lacewing-larva-vol-2-no-19>

Santharian Dream: http://www.santharia.com/bestiary/slyrking_moss.htm

Bug of the Week: <http://bugoftheweek.com/blog/2014/3/31/debris-carrying-lacewing-larvae-chrysopidae>

C. A Fungus Among Us

US National Library of Medicine: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3204140/>

National Geographic:

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/03/pictures/110303-zombie-ants-fungus-new-species-fungi-bugs-science-brazil/>

Science Daily: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/08/090811161345.htm>

Chapter 3: Cool Plants

A. Watch Your Step!

The Atlas Obscura: <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/vine-bridges-japan>

The Atlas Obscura: <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/root-bridges-cherrapunjee>.

BBC: <http://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20150218-indias-amazing-living-root-bridges>

Smithsonian: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/amazing-living-root-bridges-in-india-17077189/>

Mother Natural Network:

<https://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/wilderness-resources/blogs/breathtaking-images-of-the-living-bridges-of-india>

B. Let There Be Flower Power!

Discover: <http://discovermagazine.com/2015/march/2-leafy-lighting>

Makezine: <http://makezine.com/2011/03/01/how-to-fluorescent-flowers-the-easy-way/?scrlybrkr=f3b17a4a#>

Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Carolus-Linnaeus>

The National Gardening Association: <https://garden.org/plants/>

C. The Sweet Truth

National Institutes of Health: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16406368>

Scientific Research: <https://www.scirp.org/journal/PaperInformation.aspx?PaperID=57091>

ACS Publications: <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/jf60139a026>

California Rare Fruit Growers: <https://www.crfg.org/pubs/ff/miraclefruit.html>

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Chapter 4: Small Animals

A. Puppy's Got a Brand-New Pal

Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/animal/African-hunting-dog>

National Geographic: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/a/african-wild-dog/>

Penn State: <http://news.psu.edu/story/184803/2008/08/03/worlds-smallest-snake-found-barbados>

National Geographic: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/08/080803-smallest-snake.html>

B. The Tiny Guardians of Your Bookshelf

Scientific American: <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/running-ponies/how-book-scorpions-tend-to-your-dusty-tomes/>

Penn State: <https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/pseudoscorpion>

University of Minnesota: <https://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/insects/find/pseudoscorpions/>

Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/animal/false-scorpion>

C. Mighty Mollusks

University of Portsmouth: <http://uopnews.port.ac.uk/2015/02/18/scientists-find-strongest-natural-material/>

National Geographic:

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/02/150219-strongest-limpets-animals-science-technology-engineering-materials/>

PHYS.org: <https://phys.org/news/2015-02-scientists-strongest-natural-material.html>

Calvin College: <http://www.calvin.edu/chimes/2015/02/26/limpet-teeth-are-the-strongest-known-biological-material/>

Chapter 5: Medium Animals

A. Invasion of the Tree Octopods

Columbia Tribune: <http://www.columbiatribune.com/1c5d9e44-f3c6-5326-be8e-d6047f3663a6.html>

University of California: <http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/taxa/inverts/mollusca/cephalopoda.php>

Zapatopi: <http://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/>

Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/animal/octopus-mollusk>

B. The Extraordinary, Extra-Cranial Life of Mike

Modern Farmer: <http://modernfarmer.com/2014/08/heres-chicken-can-live-without-head/>

Scientific American:

<https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/running-ponies/meet-miracle-mike-the-chicken-who-lived-for-18-months-without-his-head/>

Time: <http://time.com/3524433/life-with-mike-the-headless-chicken-photos-of-a-famously-tough-fowl/?scrllybrkr>

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BBC: <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-34198390?scrlybrkr>

C. Olmy Goodness, Tiny Dragons!

AmphibiaWeb: <http://amphibiaweb.org/species/4229>

IUCN Species Programme: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/18377/0>

Slate: http://www.slate.com/blogs/atlas_obscura/2014/05/28/olm_proteus_anguinus_also_known_as_baby_dragons_live_in_slovenia.html

Postojnska: <https://www.postojnska-jama.eu/en/come-and-visit-us/vivarium-proteus/>

Chapter 6: Large Animals

A. Discovering Prehistoric Bambi

New Dinosaurs: <https://www.newdinosaurs.com/bambiraptor/>

Time: <http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,41191,00.html>

American Museum of Natural History:

<https://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/dinosaurs-ancient-fossils-new-discoveries/introduction/a-new-species/>

Princeton Field Guide to Dinosaurs:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=PFuzDAAAQBAJ&pg=PA152&lpg=PA152&dq=Princeton+Field+Guide+to+dinosaurs/>

B. Megaconda - Myth No More

Extreme Science: <http://www.extremescience.com/biggest-snake.htm>

University of Michigan: http://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Eunectes_murinus/

Extreme Science: <http://www.extremescience.com/jesus-rivas.htm>

The Mirror: <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/worlds-longest-anaconda-uncovered-amazon-7577586?scrlybrkr=f0ba30f3>

C. Gelatinous Curtain of Death

Siphonophores: <http://www.siphonophores.org/>

Monterey Bay Aquarium: <http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animal-guide/invertebrates/giant-siphonophore>

Ecology Center: <https://ecologycenter.org/terrainmagazine/fall-2002/the-deep-next-door/>

The National Wildlife Federation:

<http://nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Animals/Archives/2001/Mysteries-of-the-Twilight-Zone.aspx>

JelliesZone: <http://jellieszone.com/siphonophores/>

The Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/gallery/2012/sep/26/siphonophore-longest-animals-on-planet-pictures>

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Chapter 7: Humans -Yes!

A. Poop to the Rescue

Openbiome: <http://www.openbiome.org/>

Economist: <http://www.economist.com/node/21560523>

New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/19/magazine/say-hello-to-the-100-trillion-bacteria-that-make-up-your-microbiome.html>

American College of Gastroenterology: <https://gi.org/media/press-releases-for-acg-annual-scientific-meeting/fmt-ibd-ibs/>

VOA: <https://www.voanews.com/a/fecal-transplants-used-to-cure-intestinal-disorders/1723974.html>

National Institutes of Health: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4566439/>

B. Frankenstein's Fix

The Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2015/oct/03/will-first-human-head-transplant-happen-in-2017>

Business Insider: <http://www.businessinsider.com/head-transplant-surgeon-frankenstein-2017-7>

Newsweek: <http://www.newsweek.com/head-transplant-sergio-canavero-valery-spiridonov-china-2017-591772>

The Scientist:

<http://www.the-scientist.com/?articles.view/articleNo/49323/title/Experts-Skeptical-of-Plans-for-First-Human-Head-Transplant/>

C. Pee Power!

Science Daily: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/12/151211130103.htm>

Telegraph:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/science/science-news/12046628/Wee-fi-urine-powered-socks-can-send-message-in-emergency.html>

Bristol Robotics Laboratory: <http://www.brl.ac.uk/brlinthenews/urinepower.aspx>

Oxfam International: <https://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases/2015-03-05/pee-power-light-camps-disaster-zones>

Science Daily: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/03/160316105543.htm>

Chapter 8: Humans - Noooo.

A. A Brief History of the World in Hiccups

Priceonomics: <https://priceonomics.com/the-man-who-hiccaped-for-68-years/>

People Magazine:

<http://people.com/archive/a-cure-for-hiccups-retired-farmer-charles-osborne-isnt-holding-his-breath-hes-had-them-for-60-years-vol-17-no-12/>

BBC: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/pop_ups/05/health_guinness_medical_record_breakers/html/2.stm

ABC News: <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/british-man-hiccups-diagnosed-brain-tumor-doctors-baffled/story?id=9544425>

Mayo Clinic: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/hiccups/symptoms-causes/dxc-20320115>

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B. Me. Myself, and...Who?

Stanford University: <http://scopeblog.stanford.edu/2015/09/09/maternal-fetal-chimera-cells-what-do-they-actually-do/>

NPR: <http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/10/26/449966350/fetal-cells-may-protect-mom-from-disease-long-after-the-babys-born>

BBC: <http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20150917-is-another-human-living-inside-you>

New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/17/science/dna-double-take.html>

Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/chimera-genetics>

C. I Spy with My X-Ray Eyes

Telegraph: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/health/7374893/Laser-eye-surgery-has-given-me-Superman-vision.html>

PBS: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/next/military/x-ray-vision/>

Lasik Vision Institute: <http://www.lasikvisioninstitute.com/the-history-of-lasik-surgery/>

Lasik Complications: <http://www.lasikcomplications.com/risks.htm>

CBS News: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/mit-researchers-invent-wireless-x-ray-vision-project-emerald/>

All About Vision: <http://www.allaboutvision.com/visionsurgery/corneal-inlays-onlays.htm>

Chapter 9: Humans - Maybe?

A. The Cure for the Common Wallflower

University of Utah: <http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/content/genetherapy/success/>

Psychology Today: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/happiness-in-world/201106/how-overcome-shyness>

JAMA Network: <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/187901>

National Institutes of Health: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/10875050>

B. The Bloody Fountain of Youth

Scientific American: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/fountain-of-youth-young-blood-infusions-ldquo-rejuvenate-rdquo-old-mice/>

Stanford University: <http://med.stanford.edu/news/all-news/2014/05/infusion-of-young-blood-recharges-brains-of-old-mice-study-finds.html>

The Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2015/aug/04/can-we-reverse-ageing-process-young-blood-older-people>

Canadian Medical Association: <http://www.cmaj.ca/content/172/7/869.full>

Sci Tech Daily: <https://scitechdaily.com/infusion-young-blood-reverses-age-related-impairments-mice/>

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C. Remote-Controlled...Brains?!

Extreme Tech:

<https://www.extremetech.com/extreme/188883-the-first-human-brain-to-brain-interface-has-been-created-in-the-future-will-we-all-be-linked-telepathically>

Scientific American: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-forgotten-era-of-brain/>

Discover Magazine: <http://discovermagazine.com/2004/oct/cover>

University of Washington: <http://www.washington.edu/news/2014/11/05/uw-study-shows-direct-brain-interface-between-humans/>

Mayo Clinic: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/transcranial-magnetic-stimulation/home/ovc-20163795>