Unit 3: Hoaxes and Fake News

Lesson 10: Confirmation Bias
Essential Questions

How does confirmation bias affect the way we research and learn about topics?
In the Last Lesson

You learned how circular reporting can contribute to fake news stories. To demonstrate this you watched a TedEd video and then heard about a real life example of circular reporting led to fake information being “verified” on Wikipedia.
In this Lesson

In today’s lesson, you will learn about how your brain works against you when it comes to fake news. We will learn about confirmation bias and then contextualize it in the matter of fake news and how you can combat it. Finally you will confront your own confirmation bias.
In this Lesson

Activity 1: You will answer the introductory question

Activity 2: You will read the Time Magazine article “Is Homework Good for Kids? Here’s what the Research Says” and answer the question

Activity 3: You will read the article “Confirmation Bias: Why You Make Terrible Life Choices” and answer the short response questions

Activity 4: Listen to the interview “Motivated Reasoning: A Philosopher On Confirmation Bias”

Activity 5: Watch the video “Why Do Our Brains Love Fake News?” and answer the multiple choice and short response questions

Exit Ticket: Complete the Exit Ticket
In this Lesson you will submit for a grade

**Activity 1:** An answer to the introductory question

**Activity 2:** A written response to the article

**Activity 3:** Answers to the short response questions associated with the article “Confirmation Bias: Why You Make Terrible Life Choices”

**Activity 5:** Responses to the multiple choice and short response questions based on the video “Why Do Our Brains Love Fake News?”

**Exit Ticket:** 5 reasons in support of your chosen viewpoint (pro or anti homework)