

Webster's Gecko Goof



★ SUGGESTED GRADES

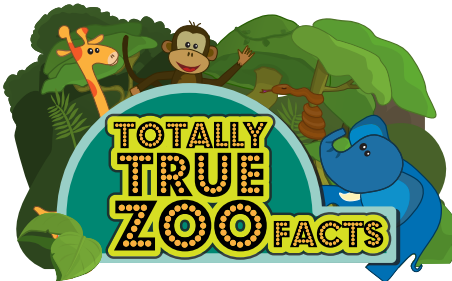
Primary and Intermediate

★ INSTRUCTIONS

Use these questions to help children understand and discuss Webster's adventures in the e-book *Webster's Gecko Goof*.

★ RESOURCE

SPOTLIGHT



Visit www.TotallyTrueZooFacts.com with your child and help him or her spot the clues which indicate that the website is not trustworthy.

★ DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why does Webster trust the information on **TotallyTrueZooFacts.com**?

Webster trusts the website because he believes that all of the information online is true. But just like you should not trust everyone you *meet* online, you also should not trust everything you *read* online. The information you find online is only as trustworthy as its author.

2. What are some clues that the information on **TotallyTrueZooFacts.com** isn't trustworthy?

Have you ever heard of a gecko that bakes chocolate soufflés or wears cowboy boots? Of course not! This information does not make sense. It's a clue that the website may not be trustworthy. Whenever you visit websites, you should look for clues to see if they can be trusted. For example, check their dates. If they have not been updated recently, the sites' information may not be trustworthy.

3. What should Webster have done to check the information on **TotallyTrueZooFacts.com**?

Webster should have triple-checked the information by visiting at least two other trustworthy websites. For example, he could have checked to see if the information on TotallyTrueZooFacts.com matched the information on a zoo's or encyclopedia's website. If the information on all three sites matched, then it would probably be correct.

4. Why might someone put the wrong information online?

Some people put the wrong information online by mistake because they think that it is true. Other people put the wrong information online on purpose. They may do it to be funny or to trick you into doing something, like buying a product. That is why it's important to triple-check a website's information before you trust it!

5. How can you tell if a website is trustworthy?

To tell if a website is trustworthy, check its date, author, and domain name. The **date** should be recent. The **author** should be an expert—a person who knows a lot about a subject or topic, like the zookeeper Webster met. Websites with **domain names** like .gov or .edu can usually be trusted because they are by experts. And if you aren't sure about a website, you can always ask an adult for help!

Watch videos and play games at
NetSmartzKids.org

NetSmartz®

A program of the



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
**MISSING &
EXPLOITED
CHILDREN**