

Module 2

Lesson 1 – Teacher Guide

Lesson 1 – Reading a URL

In order to connect to the internet to find your information you must have software on your computer that allows you to gain access to the web this software is called a browser.

A browser is a software program (e.g. Firefox, Internet Explorer, and Safari) that accesses and displays pages and files on the web. Browsers require a connection to the Internet (e.g., through a cable modem, a direct Ethernet connection, or Wi-Fi).

Once your browser is open there is a bar at the top of the browser's page, it contains the URL

You can use the URL to connect to different Search Engines. To determine the correct engine to use for the information you are seeking see the Handout in Section 2.

What is a URL? Specifically the letters stand for Uniform or Universal Resource Locator. This is the address of a web page on the World Wide Web (WWW). This is how search engines and people find a domain. Notice: there are no spaces in a URL. Breaking down a URL let's see what each piece means.

First you have the HTTP. The HTTP stands for Hyper Text Transfer Protocol - this is the universal language used on the internet. If we didn't have HTTP it would be like trying to use Chinese to speak in German. The language protocol is separated from the domain name by a colon (:), forward slash (/) and forward slash (/), together it looks like: (://)

After the HTTP you have the domain name. This part of the address may or may not have a WWW. The WWW means World Wide Web – this designates where the page(s) is/are located on a specific server. It's the server where the information is contained or the webmaster that will determine if the domain name includes a WWW. In general a domain name that includes a WWW means a bigger audience.

Example: <http://funbrain.com/index.html>. In this example the URL, funbrain.com is the domain name. The "index.html" refers to a specific page on the server. Notice that there is no WWW?

What is HTML?

HTML stands for Hyper Text Markup Language. It is the programming language that is used to design and format web pages.

What's the difference between a web page and a web site?

A web page is one single page of information, while a website is made up of a number of different web pages connected by links.

There is one more important bit of information that you need to know about the Protocol especially when it comes to your safety, look for the (s) in the http. An (s) tacked on to the end of the http protocol (https://) means that you are entering or viewing information on a secure or encrypted server. This designation is used when connecting to banks and shopping site that require credit card information.

Lesson 1 – Student Information Guide for Teachers

Activities for Students:

LINK 1

STUDENT – Watch this short YouTube video explaining a URL.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-lHUuuH-G4&feature=endscreen&NR=1>

LINK 2

STUDENT – For an explanation of Domain Names watch this YouTube video from England.

Domain names - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qO9IZ2j7h4>

LINK 3

STUDENT – For an explanation of Domain Name Extensions watch this YouTube video.

Domain name extensions - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&v=l8Ce-2qlydA&feature=endscreen>

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PER: ____

STUDENT HANDOUT ANSWER KEY

You should now be able to answer these questions about URLs:

What is a browser? [software used \(needed\) to connect to the internet](#)

What is a search engine? [software designed to search for information on the internet](#)

What does http mean? [Hyper Text Transfer Protocol](#)

What does https mean? [A secure server](#)

Explain each domain name suffix:

A .com – [commercial](#)

B .org – [an organization \(could also be non-profits\)](#)

C .edu – [colleges or universities of higher education](#)

D .gov – [the government](#)

E .net – [a network](#)

F. Name another domain name: [.mil – military](#); or [.uk – a country's designation](#)