



Teaching Truth:

Five simple tools for public library staff to protect and educate youth online.

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95%

of U.S. teens report having access to a smartphone and

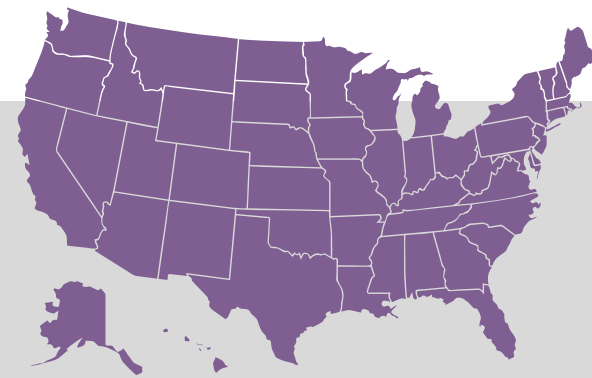
46%

report being online “almost constantly.”

[Pew Research Center](#)

Wonder Media makes media and literacy teaching tools accessible to all.

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ONLY

20

STATES IN THE COUNTRY

Require some level of media literacy education in K-12 education.

[Media Literacy Now](#)

Wonder Media develops and curates tools to help teens combat fake news.

Wonder Media is here to help.

The problem is large, and there is a strong need for education, but if people don't know about the Wonder Media Library, or how to use and access its resources, the gap remains.

OUR WEBSITE

This website is dedicated to helping you learn more about how to use the media for your purposes, and not to be used by media.

Using the Wonder Media website.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the possibilities when it comes to teaching about media and news literacy. Understanding Wonder Media's website can help you quickly locate and identify resources you need.

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TOOLKITS

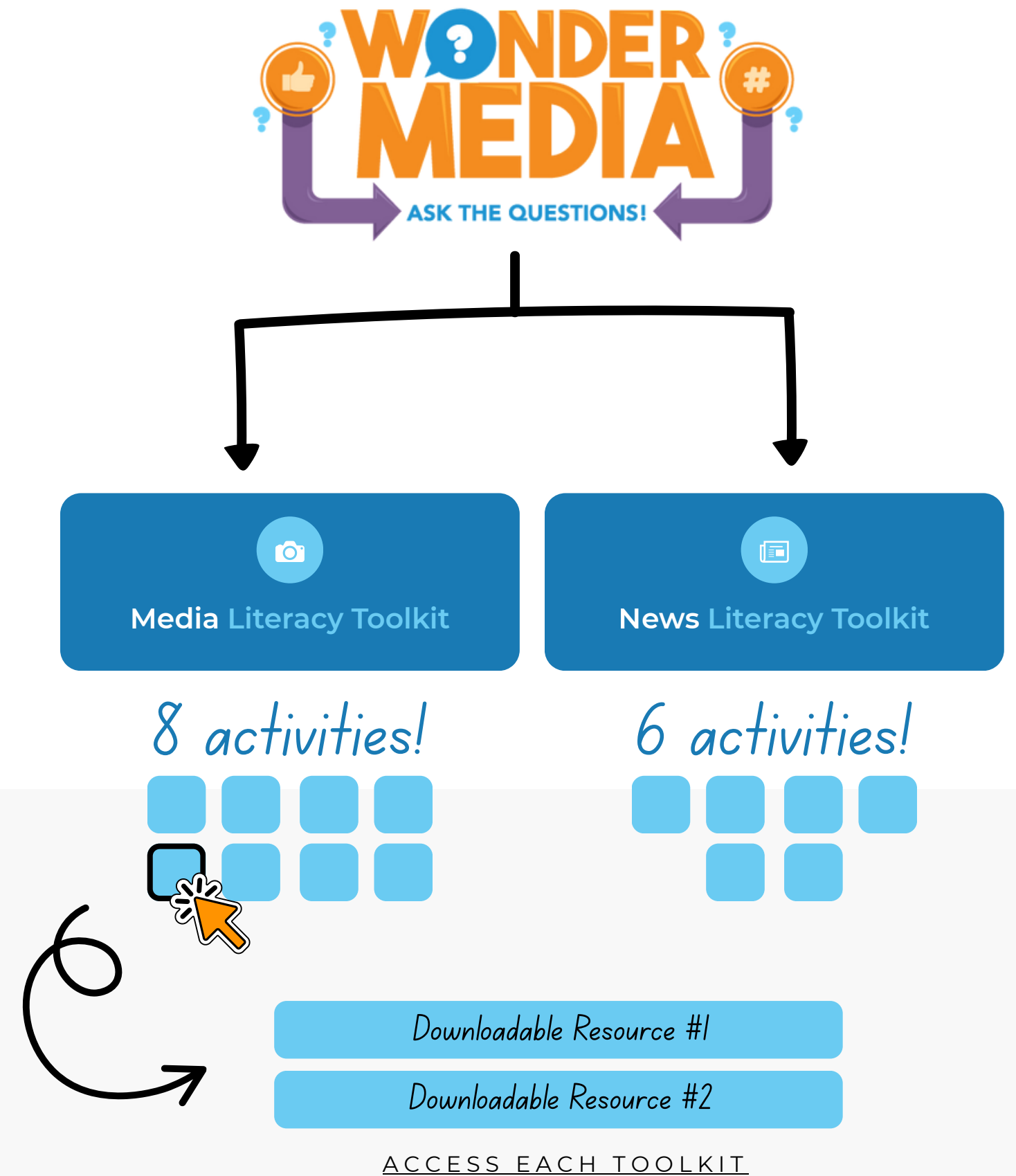
What are they? The Wonder Media website is divided into two educational areas — media literacy and news literacy. Within each toolkit are games, videos, activities and information developed with experts and educators, and field tested on the target audience of tweens and teens.

Who created these? Wonder Media alongside public school educators, middle school students, media literacy experts and journalists.

RESOURCES

What are they? The Resources is a treasure chest of downloadable lesson plans.

Who created these? Your peers and media literacy experts.

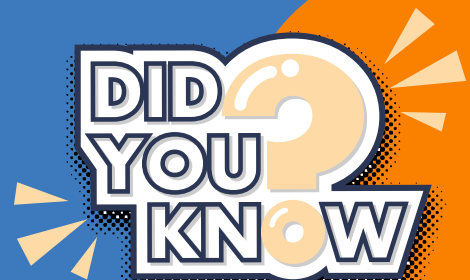


Bonus: Review [this peer-created presentation](#) for a deeper dive on Wonder Media's website.

1.

Simple definitions help users to see the utility of media and news literacy.

Simplifying the definitions allows people to focus on the core concept.



Examples help to relate abstract concepts to real life applications.

[Dual Coding and Common Coding Theories of Memory](#)

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What is media literacy?

Media literacy is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create and act using all forms of communication. (*National Association of Media Literacy Education*)

Media Literacy is about all kinds of messages — TV shows, movies, social media posts, books, advertising, music, even billboards. It's about learning how to understand, question and make messages.

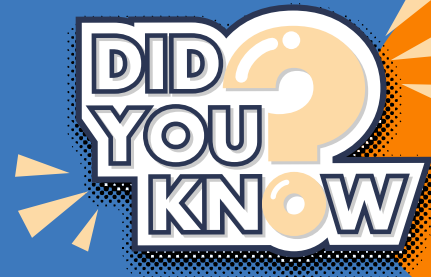
➔ **Example:** If you see an advertisement promising a perfect complexion featuring a flawless model, media literacy teaches you to question how the ad is getting your attention and what its purpose is.

What is news literacy?

News literacy is the ability to determine the credibility of news and other information and to recognize the standards of fact-based journalism to know what to trust, share and act on. (*News Literacy Project*)

News literacy is media literacy that focuses only on news. It helps you figure out whether a news story is real, trustworthy or just made-up.

➔ **Example:** If you read a social media post with information that gives you pause, news literacy teaches you to ask, "Where did this information come from? What are other reputable sources saying?" and other helpful tips.



People are drawn to interactive content (like quizzes), which increases organic reach and brand awareness while fostering a sense of community and personal connection. [Sprout Social](#)

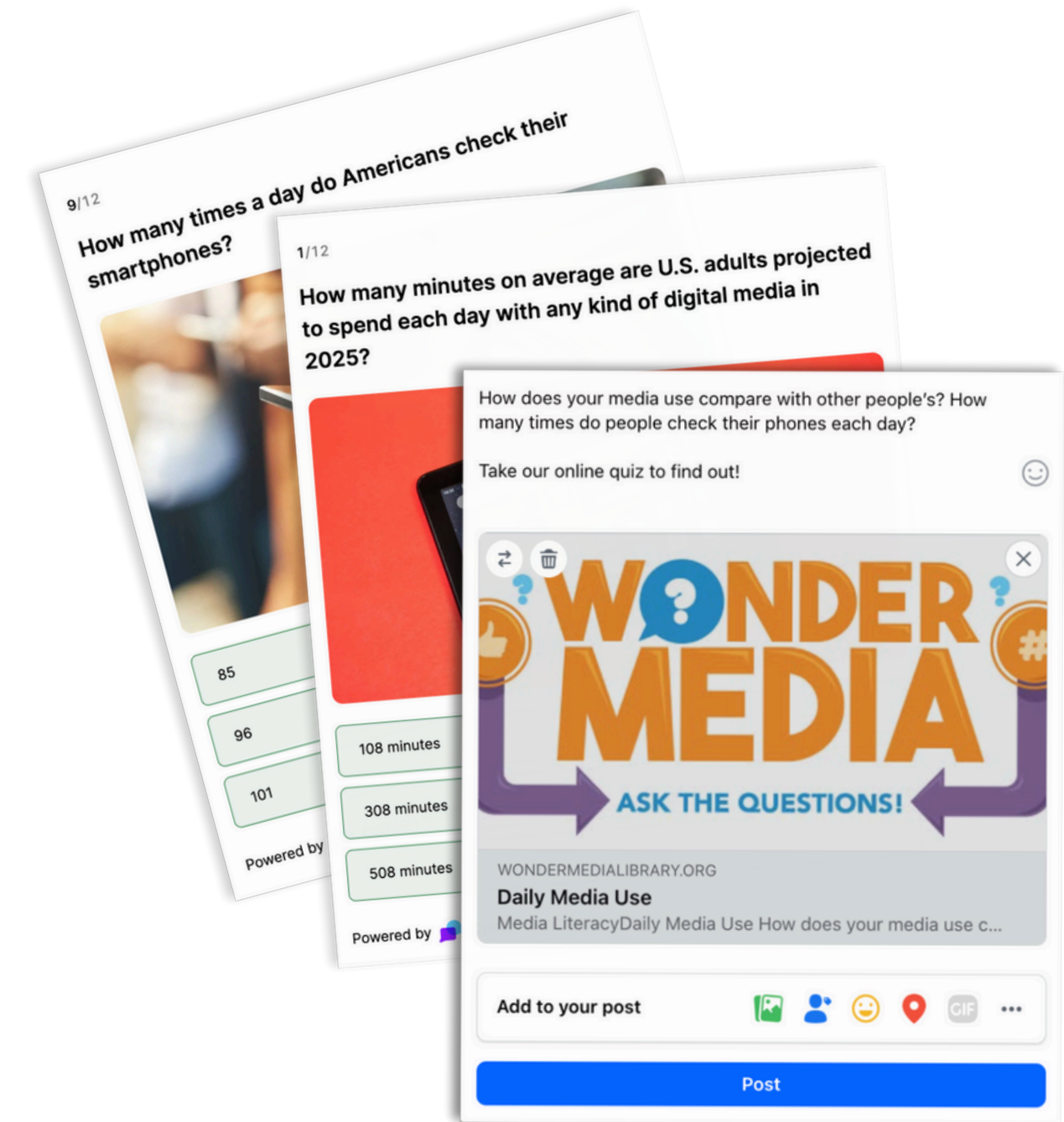
2.

Share a link to the "Daily Media Use: How Do You Compare?" activity on social media.

Why?

Leverage curiosity to drive website traffic. This activity allows people to compare their media habits with others, teaches about global and U.S. trends and tests knowledge in a playful, interactive way.

Download "[Daily Media Use: How Do You Compare?](#)" Activity.

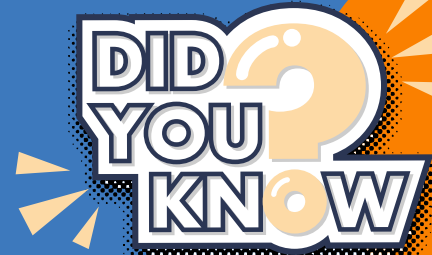


Bonus: Use this activity and [supplemental resources](#) in outreach at schools.

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3.

Print and share bookmarks, flyers and activities for free.



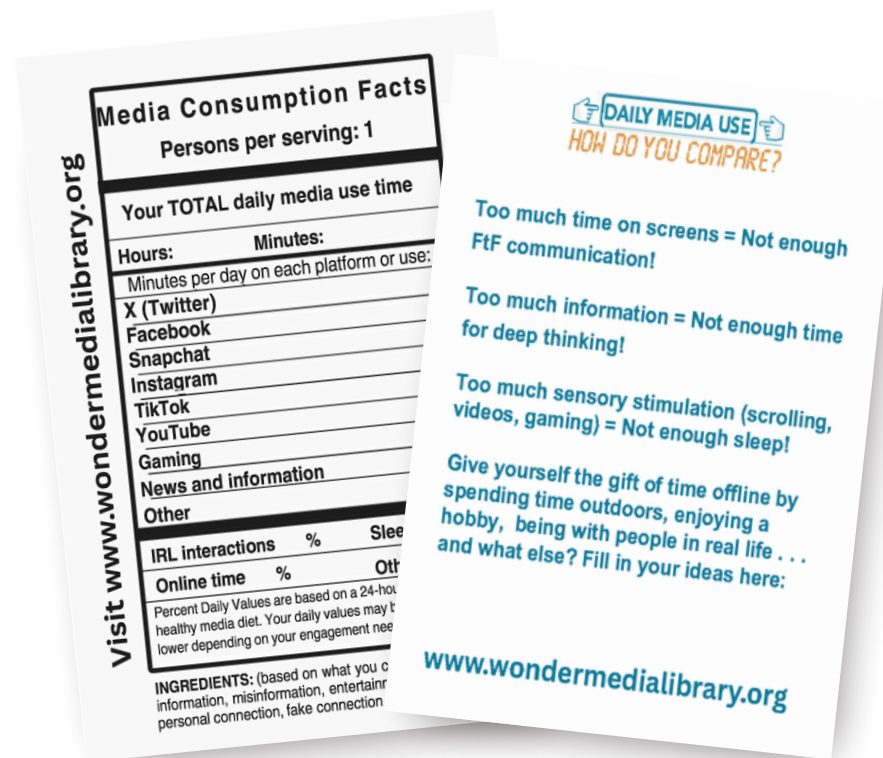
Physical items like bookmarks, flyers, or catalogs create tangible touchpoints, which increase perceived value and credibility. [MMT](#)

Why?

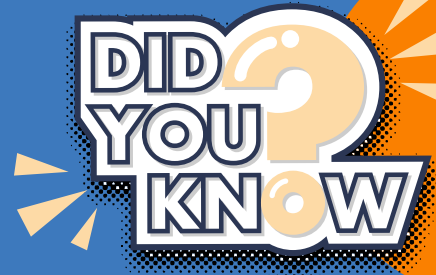
Both feature easy-to-follow, quick tips for improving literacy and emotional intelligence while interacting online.

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[Download the Marketing Toolkit.](#)



Bonus: Print and hang at computer stations and media centers or have information printed on mousepads.



Using Video Content to Amplify Learning:
Video supports different learning styles, helps students build background knowledge and visualize complex concepts.

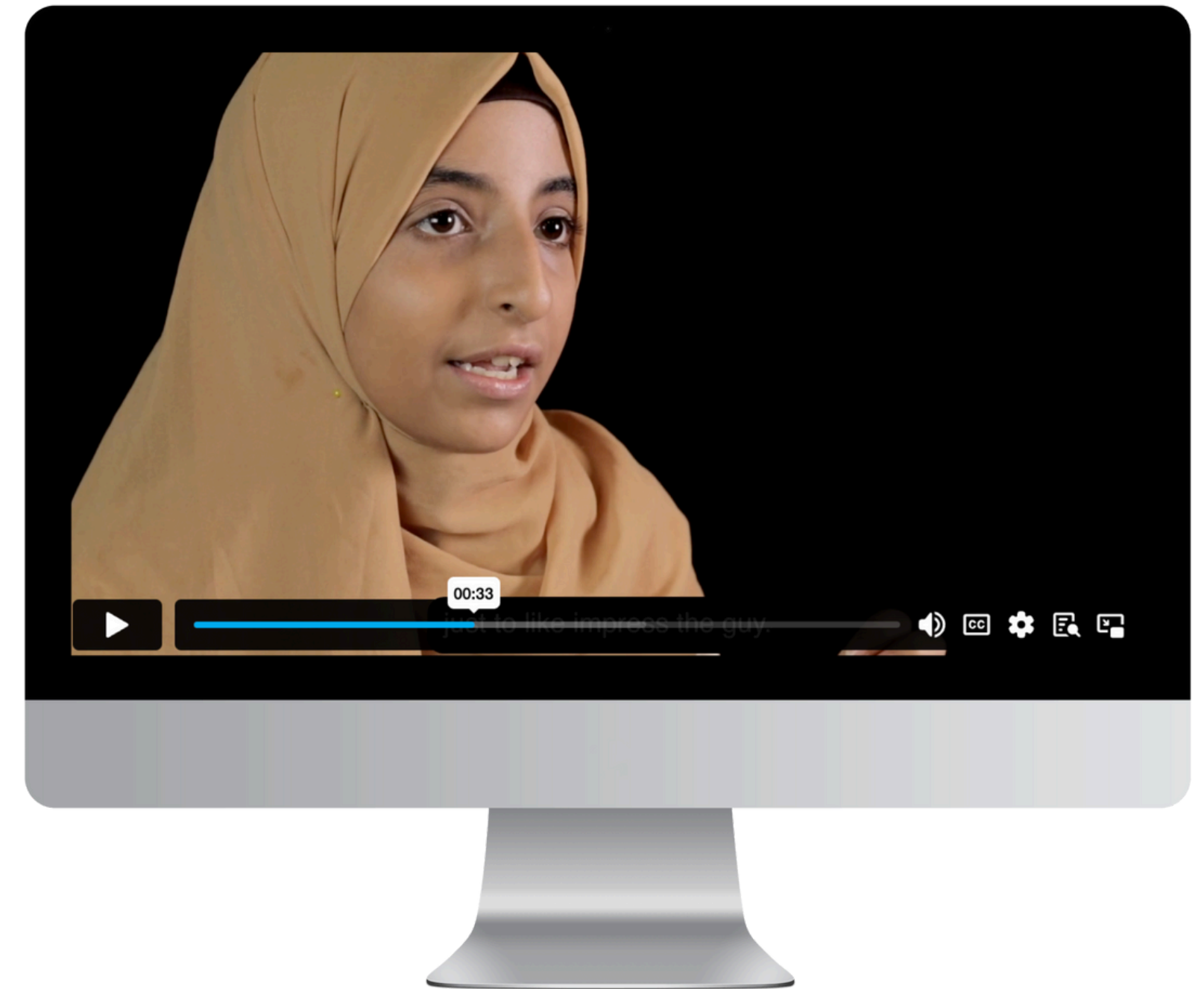
4.

Watch and discuss the "Whose Story Gets Told?" video content at your next Teen Advisory Board.

Why?

Get teens interested in learning about media literacy. Get them thinking about how media portrayals shape their understanding of people like and unlike them.

Download "[Whose Story Gets Told?](#)" Activity.



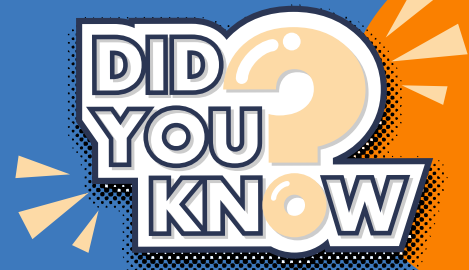
Bonus: Download additional peer-created resources [here](#) to facilitate further discussion.

5.

Print Core Concepts and Key Questions as a handout or shelf end.

Why?

Users appreciate the opportunity for further learning with QR codes on banners, posters and handouts.



QR code scans reached 41.77 million in 2025, marking a 433% increase over the past four years, underscoring the expanding role of QR codes in digital interactions. [QR Tiger](#)

[Download Core Concepts and Key Questions.](#)

The handout features a purple and blue color scheme. At the top, it says "WONDER MEDIA" in a stylized font with a question mark, and "ASK THE QUESTIONS!" below it. The main title is "MEDIA LITERACY 5 CORE CONCEPTS". A QR code is visible in the top right corner. The five core concepts are listed in numbered circles: 1. All media messages are "constructed." 2. Media messages are constructed using a creative language with its own rules. 3. Different people experience the same media message differently. 4. Media have embedded values and points of view. 5. Most media messages are organized to gain profit and/or power. Below this is a section titled "5 KEY QUESTIONS" with a list of five questions: 1. Who created this message? 2. Why is this message being sent? 3. What creative techniques are used to attract my attention? 4. How might different people understand this message differently from me? 5. What lifestyles, values and points of view are represented in, or omitted from, this message? At the bottom, it says "Source: Center for Media Literacy" and "Learn more at: WonderMediaLibrary.org". An image of a hand holding a smartphone with a QR code is also present.

Bonus: Print as a pull-up banner from a reliable vendor.

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Access dozens more free resources for sharing skills, knowledge and information about media literacy and news media literacy on our website wondermedialibrary.org.

Questions? [Get in touch with us!](#)

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