

Wikipedia & Why It Belongs In Education

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Wikipedia Education Program
Wikimedia Foundation
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Who am I and why should you care??

- ★ Teacher
- ★ Librarian
- ★ Master of Education



Who am I and why should you care??

- ★ Walt Disney Teacher of the Year Nominee
- ★ American Library Association Emerging Leader
- ★ Co-author of the *Model School Library Standards for California Public Schools*



Who am I and why should you care??

- ★ Wikipedia Education Program
- ★ Wikimedia Foundation



Before I tell you *what I think* about Wikipedia,
first let's find out *what you think* about Wikipedia!

What is something *good* about Wikipedia?

What do you *really* think about Wikipedia? ;)



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Criticism of Wikipedia

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Wikipedia:Replies to common objections

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Imagine a world...



in which every single human being



can freely share



in the sum of all knowledge.



That's what we do.

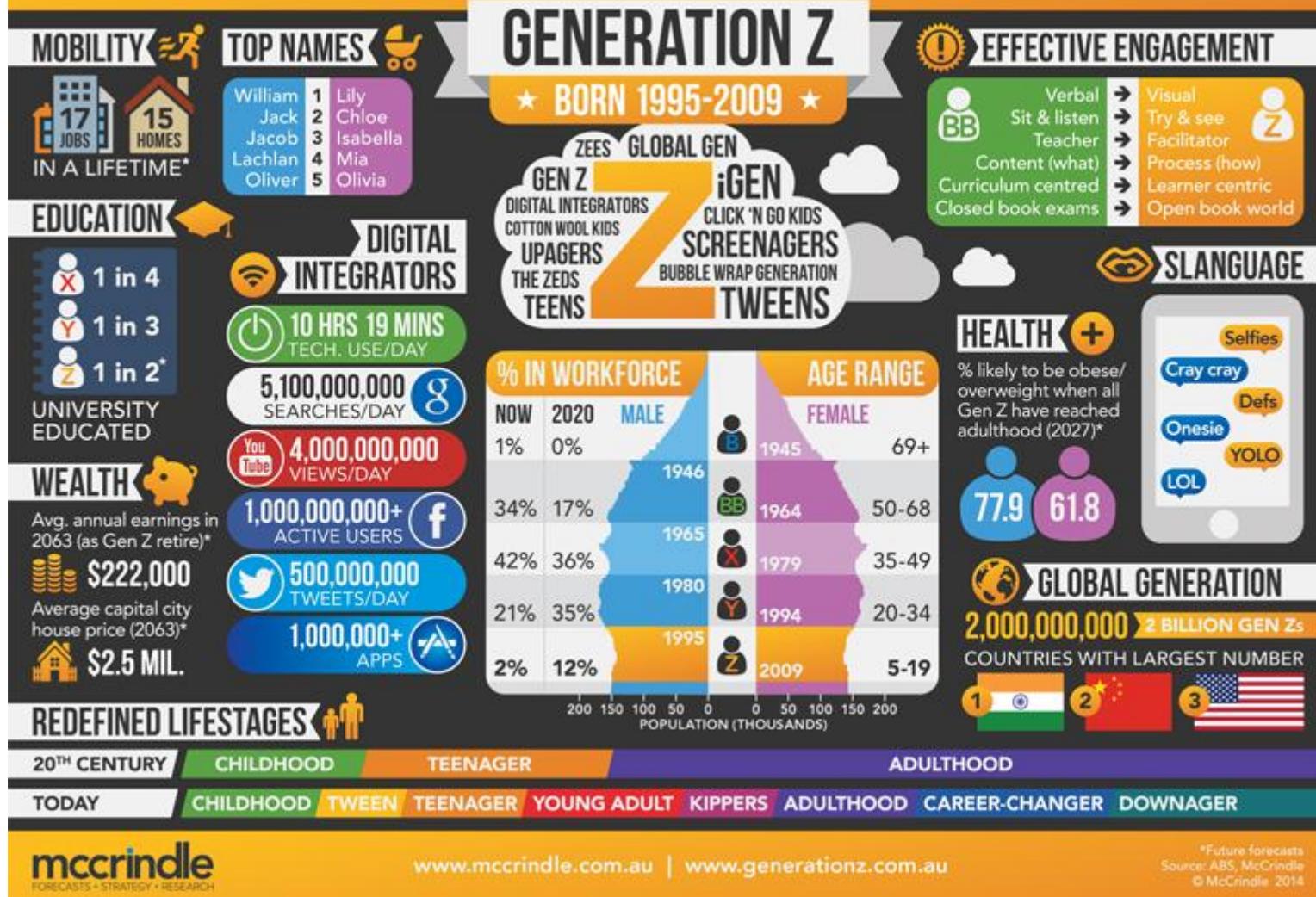


But before I tell you *how*, first let me tell you *why*...

Generation Z.



This generation is
different.





WIKIPEDIA

The Free Encyclopedia

This encyclopedia is
different.

Encyclopaedia Britannica



The Sum of Human
Knowledge

*29 volumes, 28,150 pages,
44,000,000 words of text.
Printed on thin, but strong
opaque India paper, each
volume but one inch in
thickness.*

(New 11th Edition) issued 1910-11 by the
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS (England)

The Printed Britannica: 29 volumes, 950 pages each

Wikipedia

Contributor Appendix

Volume 1

The Printed Wikipedia: 7,473 volumes, 700 pages each

- ★ ~ $\frac{1}{2}$ billion visitors monthly
- ★ +2 million total editors
- ★ +77 thousand active editors
- ★ ~1 thousand very active editors
- ★ +35.4 million total articles
- ★ ~8 thousand new articles per day
- ★ +10 million edits per month
- ★ ~10 thousand edits per hour

Sources: <https://reportcard.wmflabs.org/> and <https://stats.wikimedia.org/EN/TablesWikipediaZZ.htm>

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Wikipedia:Five pillars

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The fundamental principles of Wikipedia may be summarized in five "pillars":



Wikipedia is an encyclopedia: It combines many features of general and specialized [encyclopedias](#), [almanacs](#), and [gazetteers](#). Wikipedia is not a soapbox, an advertising platform, a vanity press, an experiment in anarchy or democracy, an indiscriminate collection of information, or a web directory. It is not a dictionary, a newspaper, or a collection of source documents, although some of its fellow Wikimedia projects are.



Wikipedia is written from a neutral point of view: We strive for articles that document and explain the major points of view, giving due weight with respect to their prominence in an impartial tone. We avoid advocacy and we characterize information and issues rather than debate them. In some areas there may be just one well-recognized point of view; in others, we describe multiple points of view, presenting each accurately and in context rather than as "the truth" or "the best view". All articles must strive for verifiable accuracy, citing reliable, authoritative sources, especially when the topic is controversial or is on living persons. Editors' personal experiences, interpretations, or opinions do not belong.



Wikipedia is free content that anyone can use, edit, and distribute: Since all editors freely license their work to the public, no editor owns an article and any contributions can and will be mercilessly edited and redistributed. Respect copyright laws, and never plagiarize from sources. Borrowing non-free media is sometimes allowed as fair use, but strive to find free alternatives first.



Editors should treat each other with respect and civility: Respect your fellow Wikipedians, even when you disagree. Apply Wikipedia etiquette, and don't engage in personal attacks. Seek consensus, avoid edit wars, and never disrupt Wikipedia to illustrate a point. Act in good faith, and assume good faith on the part of others. Be open and welcoming to newcomers. If a conflict arises, discuss it calmly on the nearest talk pages, follow dispute resolution, and remember that there are 4,936,082 articles on the English Wikipedia to work on and discuss.



Wikipedia has no firm rules: Wikipedia has policies and guidelines, but they are not carved in stone; their content and interpretation can evolve over time. Their principles and spirit matter more than their literal wording, and sometimes improving Wikipedia requires making an exception. Be bold but not reckless in updating articles, and do not agonize about making mistakes. Every past version of a page is saved, so any mistakes can be easily corrected.

[Wikipedia principles](#)

[show]

[Wikipedia key policies and guidelines](#)

[show]

Categories: [Wikipedia basic information](#)[Main page](#)
[Contents](#)
[Featured content](#)
[Current events](#)
[Random article](#)
[Donate to Wikipedia](#)
[Wikipedia store](#)[Interaction](#)
[Help](#)
[About Wikipedia](#)
[Community portal](#)
[Recent changes](#)
[Contact page](#)[Tools](#)
[What links here](#)
[Related changes](#)
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[Permanent link](#)
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[Wikidata item](#)[Print/export](#)[Create a book](#)
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[Azerbaijani](#)
[تۆرکجه](#)**Shortcuts:**
[WP:5P](#)
[WP:FIVE](#)
[WP:FIVEPILLARS](#)[Shortcut:](#)
[WP:SP1](#)[Shortcut:](#)
[WP:SP2](#)[Shortcut:](#)
[WP:SP3](#)[Shortcut:](#)
[WP:SP4](#)[Shortcut:](#)
[WP:SP5](#)Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Five_pillars



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Wikipedia:Core content policies

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



This is an [information page](#) that describes a communal [consensus](#) on some aspect or aspects of Wikipedia's norms and practices. It is intended to supplement and/or clarify [Wikipedia:Neutral point of view](#), [Wikipedia:Verifiability](#) and [Wikipedia:No original research](#) pages. It is not one of [Wikipedia's policies or guidelines](#); where something is inconsistent with this [essay](#), please defer to those.

Shortcuts:
[WP:CCPOL](#)
[WP:NPOV](#),
[V and OR](#)

Wikipedia's content is governed by three principal core [content policies](#): [neutral point of view](#), [verifiability](#), and [no original research](#). Editors should familiarize themselves with all three, jointly interpreted:

1. **Neutral point of view (WP:NPOV)** – All Wikipedia articles and other encyclopedic content must be written from a *neutral point of view*, representing significant views fairly, proportionately and without bias.
2. **Verifiability (WP:VER)** – Material challenged or [likely to be challenged](#), and all quotations, must be attributed to a reliable, published source. In Wikipedia, [verifiability](#) means that people reading and editing the encyclopedia can check that information comes from a [reliable source](#).
3. **No original research (WP:NOR)** – Wikipedia does [not publish original thought](#): all material in Wikipedia must be attributable to a [reliable, published source](#). Articles may not contain any new analysis or synthesis of published material that serves to advance a position not clearly advanced by the sources.

These policies determine the type and [quality](#) of material that is acceptable in Wikipedia articles. Because they complement each other, they should not be interpreted in isolation from one another. The principles upon which these policy statements are based are not superseded by other policies or guidelines, or by editors' consensus. These three policy pages may be edited only to improve the application and explanation of the principles.

Core content policies

[Neutral point of view](#)
[No original research](#)
[Verifiability](#)

Other content policies

[Article titles](#)
[Biographies of living persons](#)
[Image use policy](#)
[What Wikipedia is not](#)

V • T • E

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Core_content_policies

Wikipedia Education Program

Wikipedia Education Program

The idea behind the Wikipedia Education Program is simple: educators and students around the world contribute to Wikipedia and Wikimedia projects in an academic setting.



Wikipedia
belongs in
education.

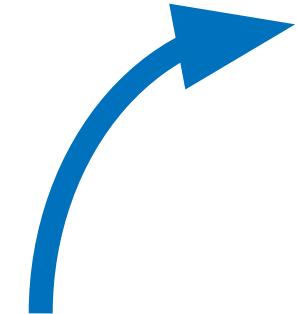
education.wikimedia.org

Readers

Quality

Content

Contributors





CLASSROOM
ASSIGNMENTS



GOVERNMENT
PARTNERSHIPS



CLUBS &
CAMPS



REGIONAL
HACKATHONS

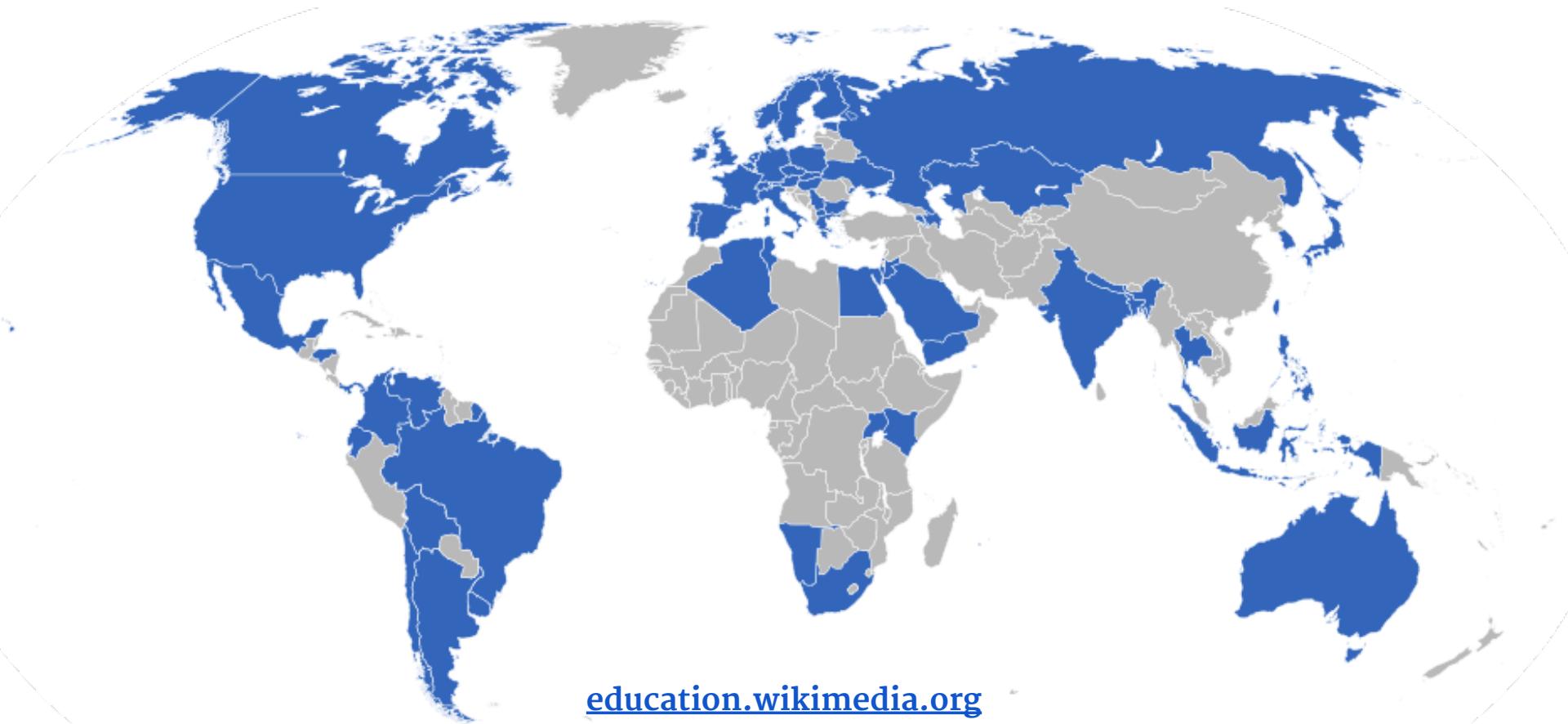


ONLINE
TRAINING



INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS

70+ programs worldwide



education.wikimedia.org

Shqipëria	Albania	Deutschland	Germany	Polka	Poland
الجزائر	Algeria	Ελλάδα	Greece	Portugal	Portugal
Argentina	Argentina	Honduras	Honduras	Россия	Russia
Հայաստան	Armenia	香港	Hong Kong	السعودية	Saudi Arabia
Australia	Australia	Magyarország	Hungary	Република Србија	Serbia
Österreich	Austria	Bharat Ganrajya	India	Singapore	Singapore
Azerbaycan	Azerbaijan	Indonesia	Indonesia	Slovensko	Slovakia
বাংলাদেশ	Bangladesh	Éire	Ireland	South Africa	South Africa
Belgium	Belgium	ישראל	Israel	España	Spain
Bolivia	Bolivia	Italia	Italy	Sverige	Sweden
Brasil	Brazil	日本	Japan	Suisse	Switzerland
България	Bulgaria	الأردن	Jordan	سوریا	Syria
Canada	Canada	Қазақстан	Kazakhstan	中華民國	Taiwan
Catalunya	Catalonia	Kenya	Kenya	ประเทศไทย	Thailand
República de Chile	Chile	한국	Korea	تونس	Tunisia
中华人民共和国	China	Latvija	Latvia	Uganda	Uganda
Colombia	Colombia	Македонија	Macedonia	Україна	Ukraine
Česká republika	Czech Republic	México	Mexico	United Kingdom	United Kingdom
Danmark	Denmark	Namibia	Namibia	United States	United States
Ecuador	Ecuador	Nederland	Netherlands	Uruguay	Uruguay
مصر	Egypt	ਨੇਪਾਲ	Nepal	Venezuela	Venezuela
Eesti	Estonia	Norge	Norway	Việt Nam	Vietnam
Suomi	Finland	اسلامی جموریت پاکستان	Pakistan	Wikinews	Wikinews
République française	France	Panamá	Panama	اليمن	Yemen
		Pilipinas	Philippines		

Country	Classes	Students	Bytes added	New articles	Files uploaded	Duration
Algeria	1	38	1.5 m	-	-	1 term
Armenia	12	127	21 m	6,609	-	2 years
Czech Rep.	3	294	1.8 m	147	-	3 terms
Egypt	85	741	31 m	-	-	5 terms
Israel	1	63	2.1 m	217	-	1 class
Jordan	10	121	1.4 m	-	-	3 terms
Mexico	-	403	7.1 m	-	3,019	9 groups
Nepal	-	14	388 k	55	-	1 term
US / Canada	67	9,090	66 m	253	1,381	8 terms

CHINA



In China, there are no WikiClubs in schools. Students edit independently.

In Winter 2014, high school and university students honored the death of a famous philanthropist. They photographed some of the 6,013 monuments, schools, hospitals, and theaters that he built.

EGYPT



In Spring/Summer 2014, students added more than 12 million bytes of new Arabic content. Since 2012, they have translated articles into Arabic from English, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, and Turkish.

ISRAEL



In 2013–2014, in Be'er Sheva,
350 excelling/advanced students from
10 9th-grade classes wrote articles about
the city and its surrounding areas.

This project was a partnership
of many people and organizations:
Wikimedia Israel, the Ministry of
Education, the Municipal Education
Director, the senior teachers from all of
the secondary schools in the city,
and two Wikipedians.



SERBIA

Lazar is a Serbian high school student studying programming in Belgrade.

Lazar and his classmates wrote articles live during the 2014 EduWiki conference for teachers in Belgrade.

He convinced the director that their school should participate in the Wikipedia Education Program.

Thanks to Lazar, the Wikipedia Education Program is now even more accessible to Serbian high school students.





SWEDEN

In Sweden, there is a Wikipedia for children called WikiMini. It is for students 7–13 years old.

In Spring 2014, 100 high school students wrote articles about the human body.

In Fall 2014, they taught younger children how to edit WikiMini.

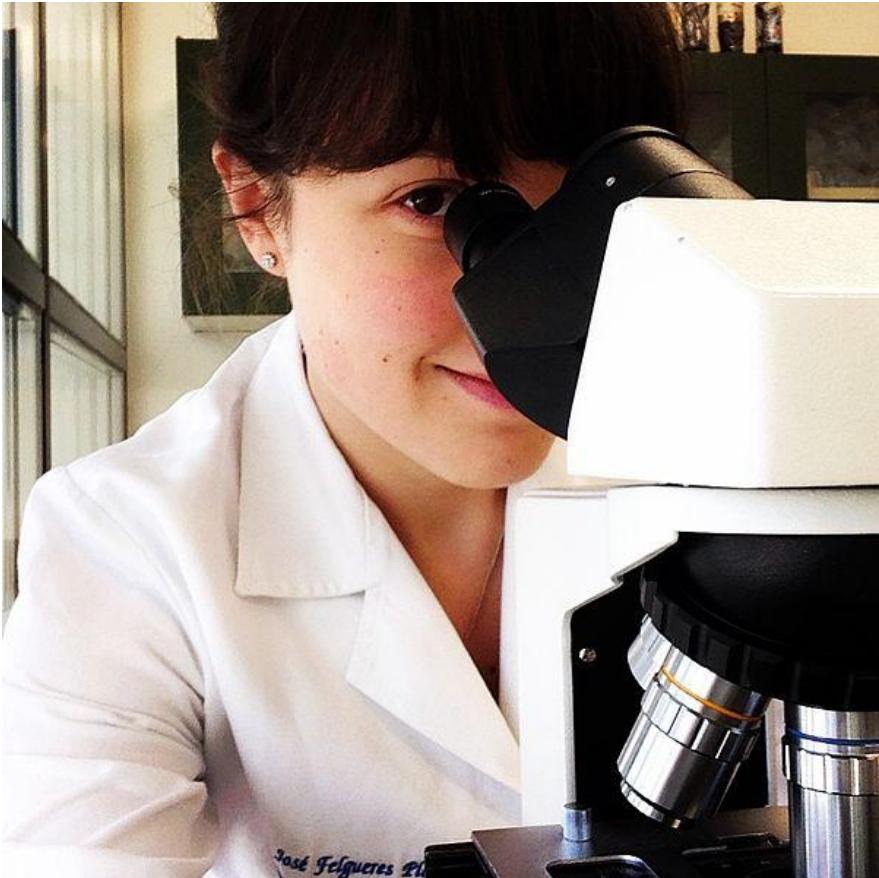


MEXICO

Mexican university students must complete 480 hours of community service in order to graduate.

One option at one school is creating content on Wikimedia projects.

María is a biotechnology student. She translates biology and medical articles from English to Spanish.



ARMENIA



Armenia has 7 WikiClubs and 5 WikiCamps. As of May 2015, students have contributed $\frac{1}{3}$ of all the content on Armenian Wikipedia and Armenian Wiktionary!

GREECE



Adults who stopped going to school as teenagers can complete their basic education at the Second Chance School in Corfu.

In Spring 2015, students learned to edit Wikipedia. They participated in a WikiExpedition then created new articles about Greek villages.

Not one student dropped the class. And 4 times as many students want to take this course next term.

CZECH REPUBLIC



Since 2014, more than 100 seniors added more than 200,000 bytes of new Czech content.



See: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Barnstars>

The Details...

- ★ Who?
- ★ Where?
- ★ What?
- ★ How?
- ★ How much?
- ★ Why?

The Who...

The "who" are the people who make up the programs and their partners in this process:

- ★ Students
- ★ Educators
- ★ Volunteers
- ★ Affiliate groups
- ★ The Wikimedia Foundation

The Where...

The "where" are the academic institutions:

- ★ Universities and colleges
- ★ Secondary schools
- ★ Primary schools
- ★ Adult education
- ★ Teacher training programs
- ★ Libraries
- ★ Local NGOs

The What...

The "what" are the entry points, the Wikimedia projects:

- ★ Wikipedia
- ★ Wiktionary
- ★ Wikiversity
- ★ Wikibooks
- ★ Wikisource
- ★ Wikinews
- ★ Wikidata
- ★ Wikimedia Commons

The How...

The "how" are the strategies, the program models:

- ★ Classroom assignments
- ★ Extracurricular opportunities (community service)
- ★ Policy change (government partnerships)
- ★ Online activities (edit-a-thons, hack-a-thons, contests)
- ★ Offline activities (clubs, camps, workshops, meetups)

The How Much...

The "how much" or "how many" are the metrics, the numbers, the data:

- ★ Content quantity (bytes, edits)
- ★ Content quality ([FAs](#), [GAs](#), [DYKs](#))
- ★ Participation (current, new, and surviving new users)
- ★ Contribution (active users and very active users)
- ★ Reach (programs, projects, languages, countries)

The Why...

The "why" or "for what?" are the reasons, the rationale, the motivation:

- ★ Diversification: Gender, Geography, Language
- ★ Contribution: Participation, Collaboration
- ★ Information: Free, Open Knowledge

The WOW...

Students improve their skills in:

- ★ Reading
- ★ Writing
- ★ Research
- ★ Critical thinking
- ★ Communication
- ★ Translation
- ★ Technical skills
- ★ Information literacy
- ★ Media literacy
- ★ Digital literacy
- ★ Digital citizenship
- ★ Copyright
- ★ Citation
- ★ Collaboration

**Wikipedia empowers
this generation with
the skills they need.**

Students gain confidence, voice, and capabilities.

**The world gains free knowledge for all,
diversity of voices, conscious citizens.**

This program is global...

12,575+ students!

1,707+ teachers!

178+ volunteers!

and that's just 16 countries!



education.wikimedia.org



The impact is real...

87,838+ articles created!

1,533+ articles translated!

925+ articles improved!

4,528+ files uploaded!

282,539,283+ bytes added!

and that's just 16 countries!



education.wikimedia.org



Wikipedia helps
students learn.

Wikipedia helps
the world learn.

Wikipedia Education Program



Wikipedia
belongs in
education.

education.wikimedia.org

Resources:

- ★ wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Our_projects
- ★ wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Answers
- ★ wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/FAQ/en



**WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION**

Resources:

- ★ Toolkit
- ★ Training
- ★ Booklets and handouts
- ★ Rationale
- ★ Case studies
- ★ Assignment design
- ★ Syllabi
- ★ Instructional videos
- ★ Further reading

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WIKIMEDIA
OUTREACH

Main page
Recent changes
Upload file
Village pump

Projects
GLAM
Education
Libraries

Resources
Bookshelf
Requested translation
Users by skillset
Contact us

Print/export
Create a book
Download as PDF
Printable version

Tools
What links here
Related changes
Special pages
Permanent link
Page information
Cite this page

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[A](#) [あ](#) English Create account Log in

Search



Education

[Translate this page](#)

Other languages:

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Wikipedia Education Program

About

Countries

Dashboard

Resources

Learnings

News

Contact

The idea behind the **Wikipedia Education Program** is simple: educators and students around the world contribute to Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects in an academic setting.

Join [the education mailing list](#) and connect with our community of Wikimedians and educators.

Subscribe to [the education newsletter](#) and see how we are transforming education together.



Wikipedia
Education
Program

Latest news [edit]

[Wikipedia Education Collaborative welcomes five new members](#)

[Wikimedia Deutschlands recent activities: events, events and more events](#)

[Working with Wikipedia expands at Tec de Monterrey](#)

[Most successful Czech course continues again this year](#)

[Read more...](#)

[Get involved!](#)

Get involved!

Education/Get involved

< Education

Wikipedia Education Program

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Contact

Thanks for your interest in the Wikipedia Education Program! There are many ways to get involved and this page explains several of them. You can also [read more general information on volunteering here](#). We hope you will decide to join us. :)

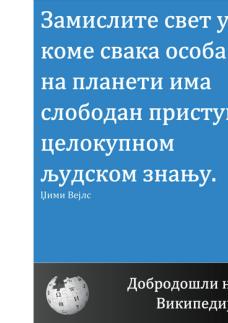
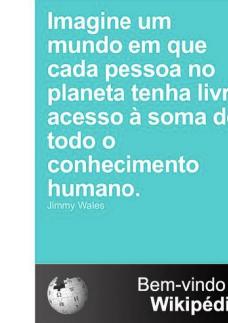
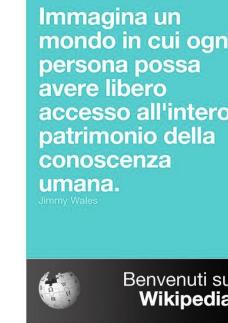
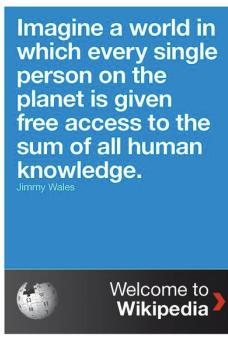
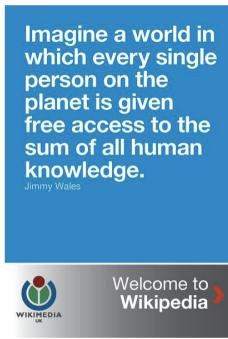
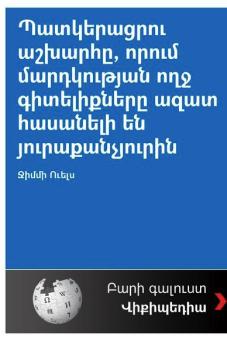
I want to...

Contents [hide]

- 1 Start a new education program
- 2 Support an existing program
- 3 Teach with Wikimedia projects
- 4 Reach out to educators
- 5 Learn how to contribute to Wikimedia projects

education.wikimedia.org

Wikipedia Education Program



Bienvenue sur
Wikipédia

ברוכים הבאים
לוויקיפדיה

Üdvözölünk a
Wikipédia-n

Benvenuti su
Wikipedia

Bem-vindo à
Wikipédia

Välkommen till
Wikipedia



Editing Wikipedia:
A guide to improving
content on the online
encyclopedia

Wikimedia Foundation

Editing Wikipedia

- on-wiki translation
- InDesign source [↗](#)
- Scribus source [↗](#)



Illustrating Wikipedia:
A guide to
contributing content
to Wikimedia
Commons

Wikimedia Foundation

Illustrating Wikipedia

- on-wiki translation
- InDesign source [↗](#)
- Scribus source [↗](#)



Evaluating Wikipedia:
Tracing the evolution
and evaluating the
quality of articles

Wikimedia Foundation

Evaluating Wikipedia

- on-wiki translation
- InDesign source [↗](#)
- Scribus source [↗](#)



Instructor Basics:
How to use
Wikipedia as a
teaching tool

Wikimedia Foundation



The Essentials:
What to do
before the term
starts

Wikimedia Foundation
Spring 2014



Case Studies:
How professors
are teaching
with Wikipedia

Wikimedia Foundation



The Syllabus:
A 12-week
assignment to
write a Wikipedia
article

Wikimedia Foundation

Instructor Basics

- on-wiki translation
- Scribus source [↗](#)
- InDesign source [↗](#)

The Essentials

- on-wiki translation
- Scribus source [↗](#)
- InDesign source [↗](#)

Case Studies

- on-wiki translation
- Scribus source [↗](#)
- InDesign source [↗](#)
- wiki version [↗](#)

Sample Syllabus

- on-wiki translation
- Scribus source [↗](#)
- InDesign source [↗](#)
- wiki version [↗](#)

Instructor Basics: How to use Wikipedia as a teaching tool

Typical structure of a Wikipedia article

A quality Wikipedia article is the result of a well-defined structure, encyclopedic content, and an active community.

Second section

lead section should summarize the key points covered in the article. Note that the lead section is without heading. The first sentence should provide a definition of the topic of the article.

about.com

Many articles contain an infobox that describes key elements of the topic. Find an article on a similar topic to yours and copy the code for the infobox to add one to your article.

copyright of the article

leaders clearly delineate appropriate sections. In the case of this article, the body covers the history of the hurricane as well as its impact.

70-2025

freely licensed images can be added
→ Wikipedia articles from Wikimedia
commons

Appendices and footnotes

If the content comes a section with other related Wikipedia articles ("See also"), the sources used in the article ("References"), and a list of other websites people could consult for more information ("External links").

The Syllabus: A 12-week assignment to write a Wikipedia article

Rating Wikipedia articles

The initiative to improve the quality of all articles has led Wikipedians to introduce a rating system (summarized below) that describes the progression from Stub to Featured Article. Encourage your students to familiarize themselves with this rating system and use it when doing peer reviews of each others' articles. Students should keep in mind that B-class and C-class articles on Wikipedia are not equivalent to a traditional "B" or "C" class work in academia. Good Article and Featured Article are only attainable through a challenging peer-review process on Wikipedia, and only the most advanced students should contemplate submitting their work to these processes.

FA	The article meets the featured article criteria shortcut [WP:FACR] and has gone through the FA candidates process shortcut [WP:FAC] . Achieving FA status is rare, although not unprecedented, for Wikipedia class projects.
GA	The article meets the good article criteria shortcut [WP:GACR] and has gone through a successful good article nomination shortcut [WP:GAN] . Good articles are challenging, but possible, for classes that engage with Wikipedia throughout the term. Leave more time for review and revision of GAs are your goal, since it typically takes several weeks before a nominated article receives a review.
B	The article is mostly complete and without major issues, but requires some further work to reach good article standards. This level of quality is realistic for good students who work hard on their Wikipedia assignments and work on articles that are not too broad.
C	The article is substantial, but is still missing important content or contains a lot of irrelevant material. Your students can do better than this, but it will take effort.
Start	An article is developing, but is still incomplete and may require further reliable sources. Without feedback and guidance from the instructor, this is the typical level of quality achieved by students. It's also, approximately, the typical level of quality of a random Wikipedia article longer than a few paragraphs.
Stub	The article contains only a very basic description of the topic, from a single sentence up to a few paragraphs. (Articles marked as stubs may actually have improved beyond stub status.)



Evaluating Wikipedia: Tracing the evolution and evaluating the quality of articles

Wikimedia Foundation

Elements of quality articles

In general, high-quality articles have five elements:

- a lead section that gives an easy-to-understand overview,
- a clear structure,
- balanced coverage,
- neutral content, and
- reliable sources.

✓ The lead section clearly points out who the person is known for in their childhood.

✓ The structure includes images and diagrams, and footnotes are arranged by the article's flow.

✓ The various sections take over the important views in an article about a breed's temperamental characteristics.

✓ Coverage is balanced; there is disagreement, which should be covered, and elements show sources. Good facts. Articles from an encyclopedia are included.

✓ Reference to plenty of authoritative sources from high-quality sites like NASA's website.

Signs of bad quality

✗ The article has a [warning banner](#) at the top. Most warning banners are only information or requests, such as asking you to help expand the article if it is very short. But warning banners can also represent an unresolved dispute about the article's neutrality or the quality of its sources.

✗ Several problems exist. A very short article is piece-by-piece.

✗ The last edits, which are often of saying 'number of' facts.

✗ There is little content in a period of time.

✗ Some sections are examples, such as a company's products.

✗ The article lacks footnotes and is written without sources.

✗ The Talk page for the article is biased in controversial topics.

What to do with articles of poor quality

If you have the time or the knowledge, please consider correcting the problems yourself by clicking [Edit](#) at the top of the article.

- 1) Check if the problem is temporary, such as somebody trying to remove a section that is unflattering about their hero. Click [View history](#) and look through the last few edits.
- 2) If the problem lies in the last edits you can click [undo](#) and instantly repair the damage. If the problem has been around for a longer period or if you do not possess the knowledge to fix it, leave a comment on the [Talk page](#), describing the problem.
- 3) If the problem is serious, such as libelous statements against a living person, feel free to cut out the problematic parts. Be thoughtful about your own biases, though, especially if you are working on an article about yourself, your nation, or your organization. Critical sections in an article are often appropriate, especially when they are well sourced. You may want to explain your deletion on the article's [Talk page](#).

For more information about what you can do when you find a poorly written article, type [Wikipedia:Writing better articles](#) in the search box.



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A close-up photograph of two ferrets being held by a person's hands. Both ferrets have their tongues slightly out. The ferret on the left has dark brown and black fur with a white patch on its forehead. The ferret on the right has similar dark brown and black fur. They are looking directly at the camera.

Any questions?

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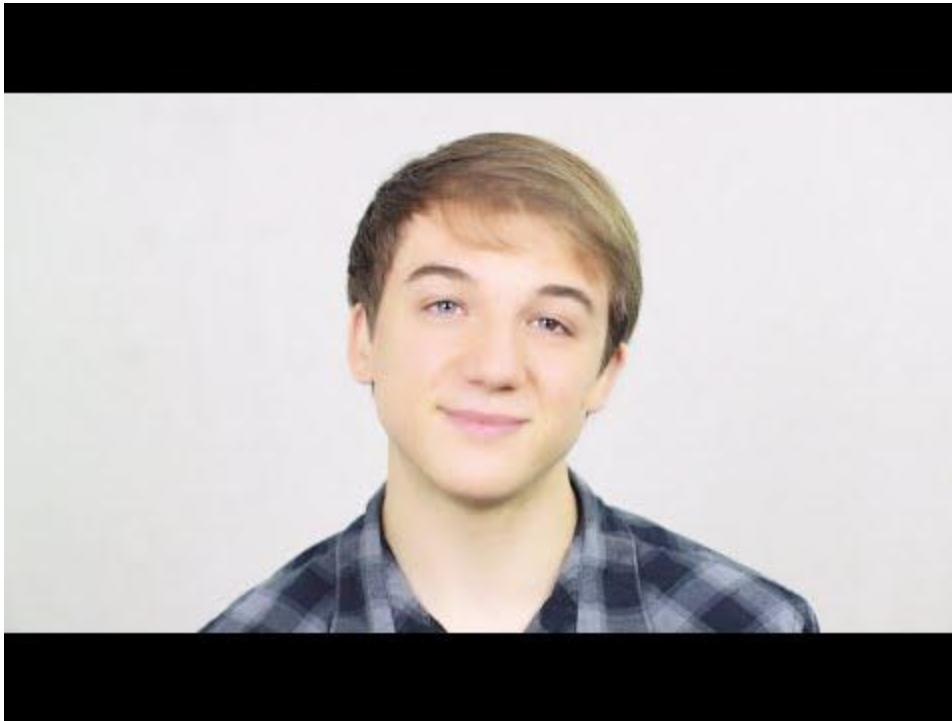
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