

Wikipedia


- and free knowledge sharing

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A globe composed of interlocking puzzle pieces. Each piece features a different character or symbol from various alphabets, including Latin, Greek, and Japanese. The globe is rendered in a light gray, semi-transparent style, serving as a background for the text.

Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge.

That's what we're doing.

About today

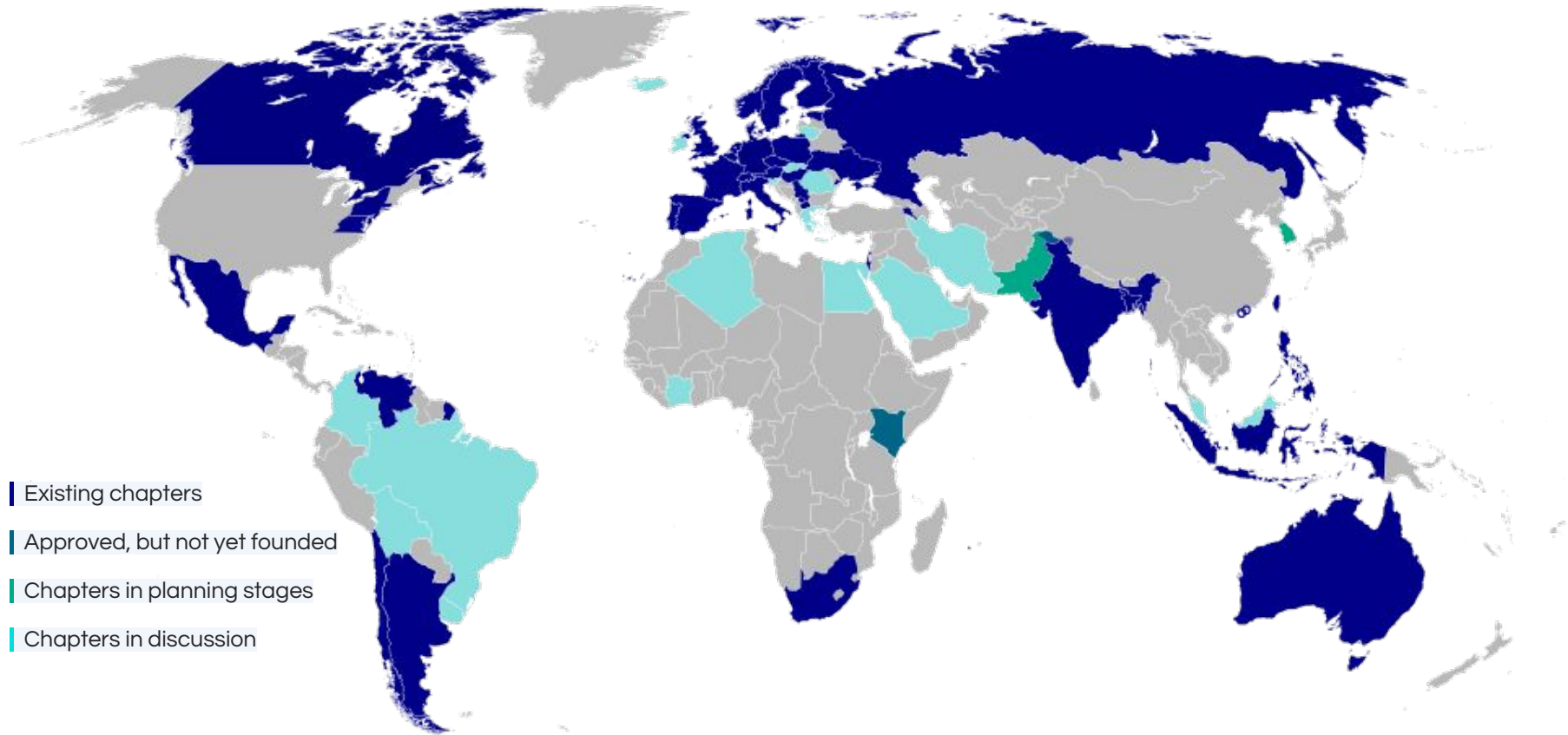
1. Presentation: What is *Wikipedia*?
(Coffee)
2. Workshop: Learn to edit *Wikiversity!*



Global collaboration for sharing free knowledge

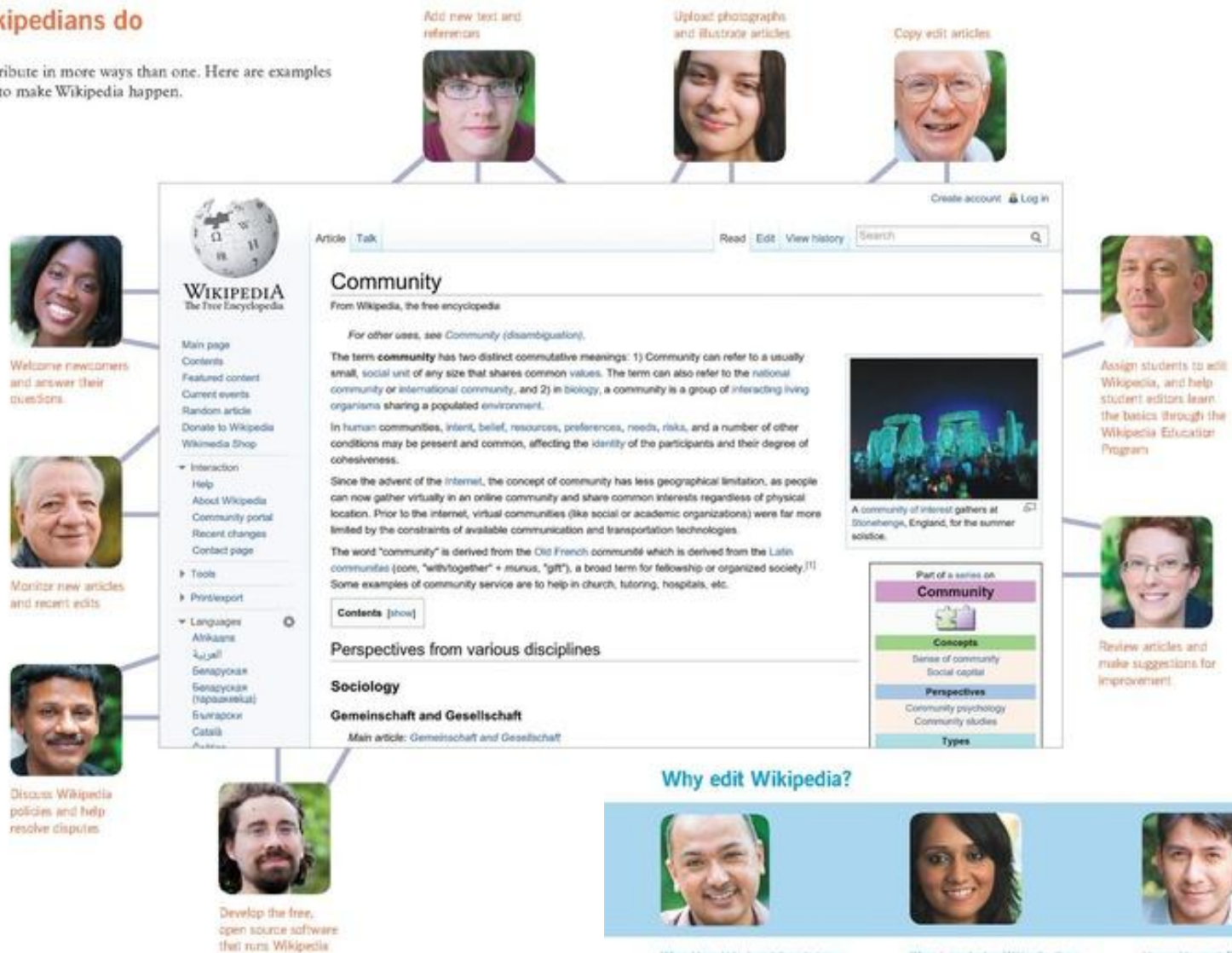
- More than **41,4** million articles.
- **294** language versions of Wikipedia.
- The worlds **sixth** largest website.
- Nearly **500 million** unique visitors each month.
- Content is created by more than **63 million** registered users and numerous anonymous users across the world.

Wikimedia Chapters around the world



What Wikipedians do

Volunteers contribute in more ways than one. Here are examples of what it takes to make Wikipedia happen.



A photograph of a classroom setting. In the foreground, several students are seated at desks, working on laptops. The student in the immediate foreground is a young woman with long brown hair, wearing a blue shirt, looking at her laptop. Behind her, a blonde woman is also looking at her laptop. In the background, a projector screen displays a webpage, and a teacher is partially visible on the left side of the frame. The overall atmosphere is one of focused learning and digital literacy.

Wikipedia in classroom context: The Wikipedia Education Program

Teachers assign students to publish their work on Wikipedia.



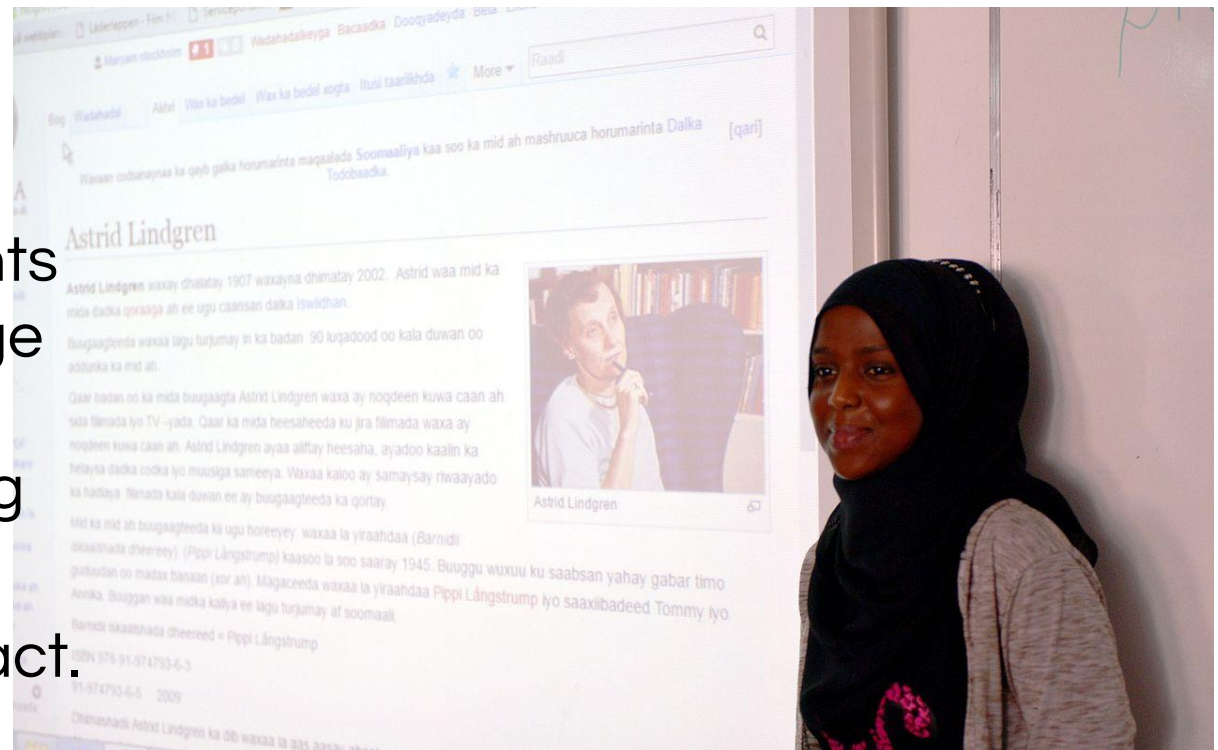
Wikipedia Education Program

Benefits for students in Wikipedia Education Program include:

- Developing writing skills for an authentic audience.
- Practicing critical thinking skills when learning to navigate and evaluate Wikipedia content.
- Collaboration with the Wikipedia Community.
- more...?

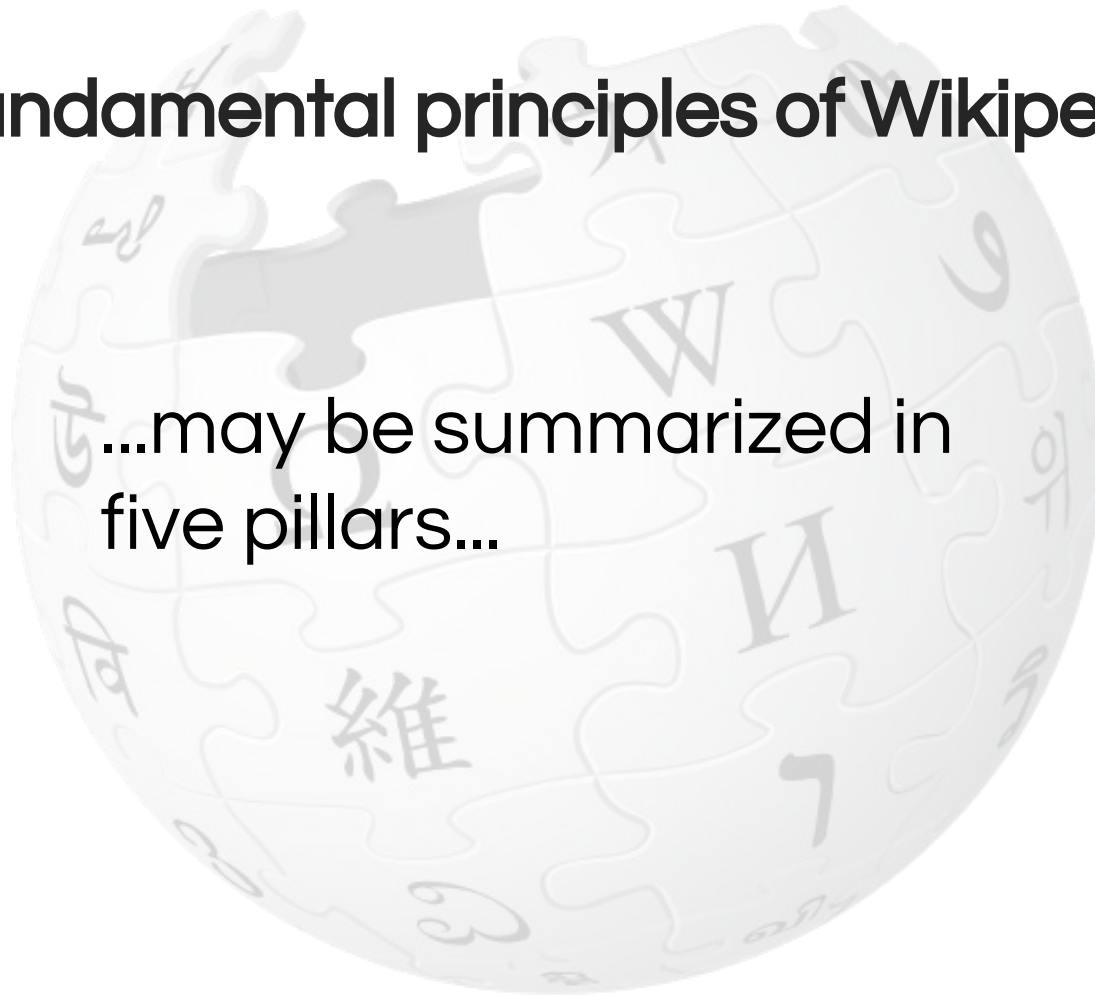
Case: Students edit Somali Wikipedia

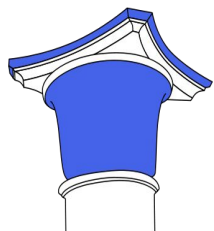
Swedish students share knowledge with the global Somali speaking community.
Real world impact.



The fundamental principles of Wikipedia

...may be summarized in
five pillars...

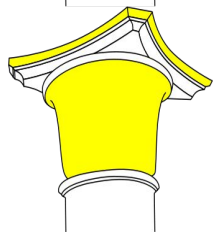




Wikipedia is an encyclopedia



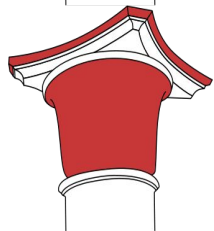
Wikipedia is written from a neutral point of view



Wikipedia is free content that anyone can use, edit, and distribute



Editors should treat each other with respect and civility



Wikipedia has (guidelines), no firm rules

Basic navigations on a Wikipedia page

Featured content

Here you can find some of the best work on Wikipedia: articles, photographs, and other content that meet the community's highest standards.

Help

The Help pages, just like the articles, are written by Wikipedia contributors.

Community portal

The community portal lets you explore what's going on across Wikipedia, from news to collaborations to policy discussions.

Tools

This section has useful tools for getting more information about a page and its history.

Languages

These are the other language versions of Wikipedia – out of more than 290 that have an article on the same topic.

Language settings

These settings allow you to change the language used for menus and select your keyboard layout.

The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for 'Encyclopedia'. The page layout includes a top navigation bar with 'Article' and 'Talk' tabs, and 'Read', 'Edit', and 'View history' buttons. A search bar is located in the top right. The main content area features an introductory paragraph, a sub-header 'This article is about the type of reference work...', and a detailed paragraph about encyclopedias. A photograph of a bookshelf is included with the caption 'Brookhaus Enzyklopädie'. A quote by Diderot is at the bottom. A 'Contents' table is visible at the bottom left.

Talk
Each article has a corresponding Talk page where contributors can leave comments and suggestions, discuss changes, and ask for help from one another.

Edit
Many readers never notice the Edit button, but it's the most important part of any Wikipedia article. Click the Edit button at the top to edit the whole article, or click one of the inline links to edit a particular section.

View history
The history of a Wikipedia article includes every contribution since it was created. You can see who changed what when, and compare any two versions side by side.

Create account
If you haven't done so yet, create your account. With an account, you can keep track of your contributions, create a personal User page, and receive notifications when other contributors reply to you or build on what you've done.

Search
Find articles by name, or find pages that include your search terms. You can also enter shortcuts to bring up specific pages that we reference throughout this brochure. A useful one is `& shortcut & WP:HELP`.

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The Free Encyclopedia

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Read Edit View history WP:HELP

Encyclopedia

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the type of reference work; for other uses, see *Encyclopedia (disambiguation)*.

An **encyclopedia** (also spelled **encyclopaedia** or **encyclopædia**)^[1] is a type of reference work – a compendium holding a summary of information from either all branches of knowledge or a particular branch of knowledge.^[2] Encyclopedias are divided into articles or entries, which are usually accessed alphabetically by article name.^[3] Encyclopedias entries are longer and more detailed than those in most dictionaries.^[3] Generally speaking, unlike dictionary entries, which focus on linguistic information about words, encyclopedia articles focus on factual information to cover the thing or concept for which the article name stands.^{[4][5][7]}

Encyclopedias have existed for around 2,000 years; the oldest still in existence, *Naturalis Historia*, was written in ca. AD 77 by Pliny the Elder. The modern encyclopedia evolved out of dictionaries around the 17th century. Historically, some encyclopedias were contained in one volume, but some, such as the *Encyclopædia Britannica* or the world's largest *Encyclopædia universalis illustrata europæo-americanæ*, became huge multi-volume works. Some modern encyclopedias, such as Wikipedia, are electronic and are often freely available.

The word *encyclopædia* comes from the Koine Greek ἐγκύκλιος παιδεία,^[8] transliterated *enkyklios paideia*, meaning "general education": *enkyklios* (ἐγκύκλιος), meaning "circular, recurrent, required regularly, general"^[9] + *paideia* (παιδεία), meaning "education, rearing of a child".^[10] It was reduced to a single word due to an error^[11] by copyists of Latin manuscripts. Together, the phrase literally translates as "complete instruction" or "complete knowledge".

Indeed, the purpose of an encyclopedia is to collect knowledge disseminated around the globe; to set forth its general system to the men with whom we live, and transmit it to those who will come after us, so that the work of preceding centuries will not become useless to the centuries to come; and so that our offspring, becoming better instructed, will at the same time become more virtuous and happy, and that we should not die without having rendered a service to the human race in the future years to come.

—Diderot^[12]


Contents [hide]

- Characteristics
- History
 - Ancient times
 - Middle Ages
 - Renaissance
 - 18th–19th centuries
 - 20th century
 - 21st century
- Etymology

A globe composed of interlocking puzzle pieces. Each piece features a different character or symbol from various alphabets, including Latin, Greek, and Chinese. The globe is centered in the background, and the text is overlaid on it.

**Do you have any objections to
Wikipedia?**

People either love it or hate it...

A globe composed of interlocking puzzle pieces. The pieces feature various symbols and characters, including the Greek letter Omega (Ω), the number 7, and the Chinese character 維 (Wikipedia). The globe is centered in the background.

"Wikipedia cannot be trusted, unlike other more scholarly sources."

a "trust, but verify" approach is often necessary with any source.

Dealing with poor quality

Sponge

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



This article includes a [list of references](#), but **its sources remain unclear because it has insufficient inline citations**. Please help to [improve](#) this article by [introducing](#) more precise citations. *(April 2014)*



This article **needs additional citations for verification**. Please help [improve this article](#) by [adding citations to reliable sources](#). Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. *(April 2014)*



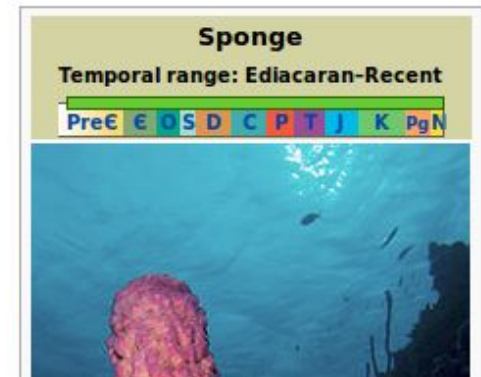
It has been suggested that *[Ecology of sponges](#)* be [merged](#) into this article. ([Discuss](#)) *Proposed since January 2014.*

This article is about the aquatic animal. For the porous cleaning tool, see [Sponge \(material\)](#). For other uses, see [Sponge \(disambiguation\)](#).

Sponges are [animals](#) of the [phylum Porifera](#) (/pɔːˈrɪfərə/; meaning "pore bearer"). They are multicellular organisms that have bodies full of pores and channels allowing water to circulate through them, consisting of jelly-like [mesohyl](#) sandwiched between two thin layers of [cells](#). Sponges have unspecialized cells that can transform into other types and that often migrate between the main cell layers and the mesohyl in the process. Sponges do not have [nervous](#), [digestive](#) or [circulatory systems](#). Instead, most rely on maintaining a constant water flow through their bodies to obtain food and oxygen and to remove wastes.

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What can vandalism look like?

- [\(cur | prev\)](#) ○ 11:19, 24 July 2014 ClueBot NG ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) [m](#) . . (88,021 bytes) **(+6,900)** . . *(Reverting possible vandalism by 204.15.111.42 to version by CharlesHBennett. False positive? Report it. Thanks, ClueBot NG. (1906373) (Bot))* ([undo](#))
- [\(cur | prev\)](#) ○ 11:19, 24 July 2014 204.15.111.42 ([talk](#)) . . (81,121 bytes) **(-6,900)** . . *(get a life losers)* ([undo](#)) ([Tag: blanking](#))

Wikipedia has a critical mass of serious ambitious editors.



Srikeit Tadepalli and Noopur Raval

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Impact_of_Wikipedia_-_Srikeit_Tadepalli_and_Noopur_Raval.webm



Read more about **Wikipedia Zero** at

https://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Wikipedia_Zero

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Open_Letter_for_Free_Access_to_Wikipedia.webm



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Welcome to Wikiversity

Set learning free

with 26,972 learning resources and growing.



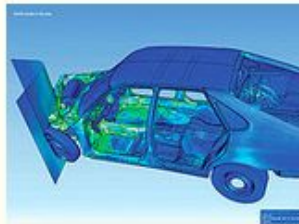
"Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited, whereas imagination embraces the entire world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution." -Albert Einstein (discuss)

Welcome

Wikiversity is a [Wikimedia Foundation](#) project devoted to [learning resources](#), [learning projects](#), and [research](#) for use in all levels, types, and styles of education from pre-school to university, including professional training and informal learning. We invite [teachers](#), [students](#), and [researchers](#) to join us in creating [open educational resources](#) and collaborative learning communities. To learn more about Wikiversity, try a [guided tour](#) or [start editing now](#).

Today's Featured Project

Nonlinear Finite Elements



[Nonlinear finite elements](#) is a course of about 150 to 200 pages designed by mechanical engineering researcher [User:Banerjee](#). It is the best developed of a number of related mechanical engineering projects created by the same user - other projects include [Introduction to Elasticity](#) (about 100 pages) and [Waves in composites and metamaterials](#) (a 25-page lecture series). [Nonlinear finite elements](#) contains a lecture series, homework

Educational Picture of the Day

Knowledge of English in the European Union



This map shows the relative abilities in

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News

2014


- **August:**
- The semester course at Wikiversity, [Principles of radiation astronomy](#) begins its fall semester on August 18th
- **January:** the [Noam Chomsky/Reading group](#) is in progress




Dumisani Ndubane

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Impact_of_Wikipedia_Dumisani_Ndubane.webm

Editing Wikiversity

- 
1. Log into your account.
 2. Enable VisualEditor in your preferences.
 3. Create your user page.
 4. Create your project page and add some information about it.
 5. Track activity in "Recent Changes"



Thank you!
For participating in sharing free
knowledge with the world!

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