

Wikidata for libraries

the case of the National Library
of Sweden

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Wikimedia Sverige is a Swedish association working to make more free and open knowledge accessible to everyone.

We do a lot of work with educational and cultural heritage institutions to support them in spreading their resources on the Wikimedia platforms.



WIKIMEDIA
S V E R I G E



The Wikimedia platforms include:

- **Wikipedia**, in over 300 languages...
- **Wikimedia Commons**, a repository of media files...
- **Wiktionary**, a free dictionary...
- **Wikidata**, a free and open database of structured data...
- ...and others



Wikidata was started in 2012 and has grown to over 90 million items.



WIKIDATA

Wikidata has a flexible structure so it can cover all sorts of topics.

The information is structured as RDF triples and it's up to the community to decide how to model specific types of items.

Everyone can edit!



Item [Discussion](#)

Nitama (Q53216650)

cat that lives at Kishi Station in Wakayama Prefecture, Japan
Tama II [edit](#)

[In more languages](#)

[Configure](#)

Language	Label	Description	Also known as
English	Nitama	cat that lives at Kishi Station in Wakayama Prefecture, Japan	Tama II
Swedish	No label defined	No description defined	
Finnish	No label defined	No description defined	
Tornedalen Finnish	No label defined	No description defined	

[All entered languages](#)

Statements

instance of

house cat [edit](#)

[0 references](#)

[+ add reference](#)

[+ add value](#)

image



[edit](#)

Most of the 90 million items
have been imported from other
open data sources.

Wikidata was built with
machine readability in mind,
easy to both extract data from
and put data into it.



Incarceration of the intermeniscal ligament in tibial eminence injury: a block to closed reduction identified using MRI. (Q38256866)

scientific article published on 07 October 2014

[In more languages](#)

Statements



instance of

 scholarly article 

[1 reference](#)

[+ add value](#)

title

 Incarceration of the intermeniscal ligament in tibial eminence injury: a block to closed reduction identified using MRI. (English) 

[1 reference](#)

[+ add value](#)

author name string

 Noah Archibald-Seiffer 

series ordinal 1

[1 reference](#)

 John Jacobs 

series ordinal 2

[1 reference](#)

 Andrew Zbojniec 

series ordinal 3

Ca. 30% of all items on Wikidata are about **scholarly articles** – PubMed a prominent source.

The National Library of Sweden has released several datasets under the **CC0** license.

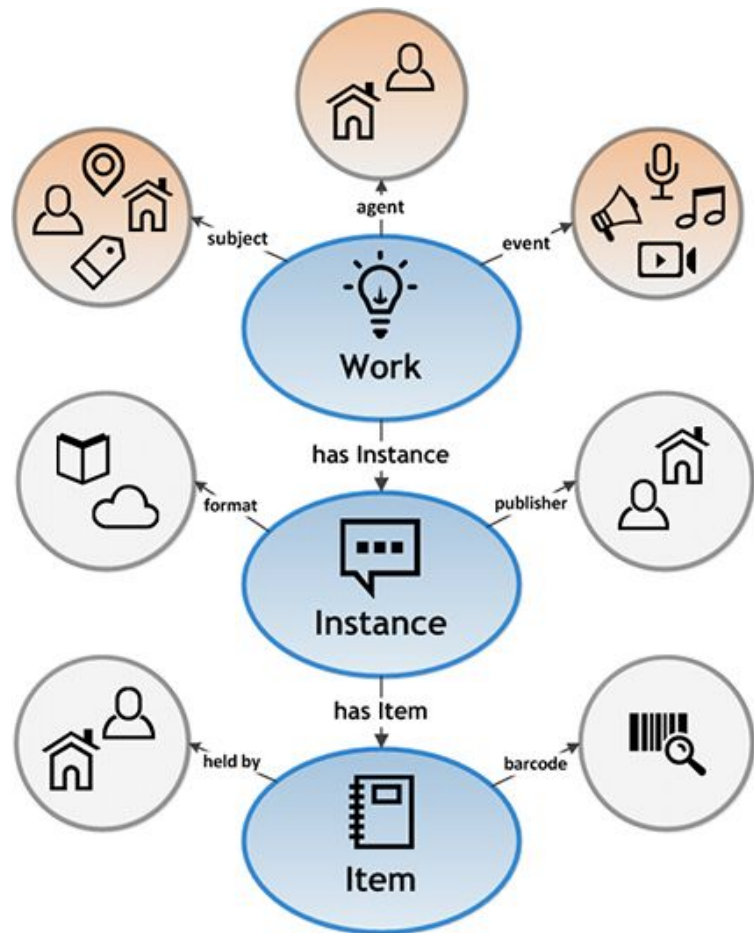
- Authority file
- Swedish National Bibliography
 - everything that is being published in Sweden, over 700,000 items



In 2018, the National Library of Sweden became the first public library to transition to linked data.

New catalog, **Libris XL**, is based on Bibframe 2.0.

Wikidata editors have established a similar data model for books, based on the work/edition distinction.



Working with Swedish bibliographic data on Wikidata

We **imported** data about 2,000 books and 30,000 periodicals from Libris to Wikidata.

Libris has an **open API** – easy to access data as JSON-LD.

OpenRefine was used to process the data, reconcile it and upload it to Wikidata.

We prototyped an add-on to Wikidata to let users import data from Libris to Wikidata, using a book's **Libris ID**.

Matching fields like author and publisher to Wikidata is a challenge – sometimes the catalog entry only contains a string, not a linked ID.

```
- contribution: [
  - {
    @type: "Contribution",
    - agent: {
      @type: "Person",
      familyName: "Li",
      givenName: "Hui-lin"
    },
    - role: [
      - {
        @id: "https://id.kb.se/relator/editor"
      }
    ]
  },
],

- contribution: [
  - {
    @type: "PrimaryContribution",
    - agent: {
      @id: "https://libris.kb.se/20dggfhl2vcxf74#it"
    },
    - role: {
      @id: "https://id.kb.se/relator/author"
    }
  },
  - {
    @type: "Contribution",
    - agent: {
      @id: "https://libris.kb.se/jgvx0qz25l2pgc2#it"
    },
    - role: [
      - {
        @id: "https://id.kb.se/relator/illustrator"
      }
    ]
  },
],
```

Wikidata has a good coverage of Swedish authority ID's, with 70,000 person items linking to Libris.

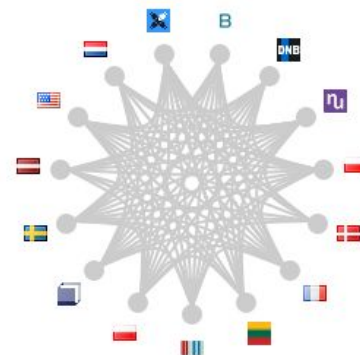
VIAF has been indispensable in adding Libris ID's to items that have a VIAF ID.



Ericson Wolke, Lars, 1957-....
Ericson, Lars (1957-)
Lars Ericson Wolke
Ericson Wolke, Lars
VIAF ID: 11041888 (Personal)
Permalink: <http://viaf.org/viaf/11041888>

Preferred Forms

- 200 _ 1 [_ta Ericson Wolke _tb Lars _tf 1957-](#)
- [_ta Ericson Wolke _tb Lars _tf 1957-....](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars _td \(1957-\)](#)
- [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars _td \(1957-\)](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars _td 1957-](#)
- B 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars _td 1957-](#)
- [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars _td 1957-....](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars, _td 1957-](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars, _td 1957-](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars, _td 1957-](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars, _td 1957-](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson Wolke, Lars, _td 1957-....](#)
- 100 1 _ [_ta Ericson, Lars _td \(1957-\)](#)
- 100 0 _ [_ta Lars Ericson Wolke](#)



Support and training on
Wikidata for librarians.

We organized a webinar with
participants from public,
university and research
libraries.



Cats being instructed in the art of mouse-catching by an owl

Lombard School, PD

How can libraries work with Wikidata?

Copyright issues are important. Since Wikidata is **CC0**, it needs compatibly licensed open data to grow.

Libraries and other institutions can **link to Wikidata** from their catalogs. Easy way to provide more information about their collections without a huge investment.

“

Rather than focusing on directly enhancing our own local data repository silos [...], libraries and archives should invest their limited resources in **enriching Wikidata**, a centralized data repository, to maximize the visibility of those entities and the reusability of that data in the world at large...

And then **pull that data back** into our local repositories to enrich our displays and integration with the broader world of data.

Dan Scott, Laurentian University

<https://coffeecode.net/wikidata-canada-150-and-music-festival-data.html>

”

Thank you!

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<https://wikimedia.se>