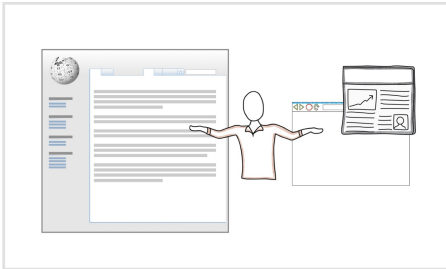


## Lesson Plan

This lesson plan is designed to help you teach using a Common Craft video. Use the information below to introduce the video and then follow the video with discussion questions and other resources.



[commoncraft.com/video/wikipedia](https://commoncraft.com/video/wikipedia)

### ISTE Standard:

**Global Collaborator, Indicator 7c**

### ACRL Info Literacy Frame:

**Information Has Value,  
Scholarship as Conversation,  
Information Creation as a Process**

# Wikipedia

Explained by Common Craft

Wikipedia is an amazing and immense resource, but it's not always clear what helps to ensure that the articles are factual and high quality. This video discusses wiki technology and the policies of the organization that makes Wikipedia work.

## Learning Outcomes

- Compare and contrast Wikipedia to a traditional print encyclopedia
- Explain the goals of Wikipedia
- Describe what is involved in adding or editing content in Wikipedia
- Describe the two rules that every change to Wikipedia must abide by in order to ensure that content is reliable

## Discussion Questions

### Q #1

What are the advantages and disadvantages of Wikipedia compared to those of a traditional print encyclopedia?

### Q #2

Describe the challenges of balancing opposing viewpoints in a Wikipedia article on a hotly disputed topic.

## Knowledge Check Q&A

**Q**

What is Wikipedia?

**A**

It is a free, online encyclopedia built by thousands of people that changes every day.

**Q**

What are the two rules that contributors must abide by to ensure that Wikipedia remains a reliable source for factual information?

**A**

1) Verifiability. 2) Neutral point of view.

**Q**

Who upholds the rules of Wikipedia to make it a reliable source?

**A**

Every change to Wikipedia is reviewed by volunteer contributors who can easily reverse the change to maintain the article's integrity.

## Resources for Learning More

### Ted Talk

Jimmy Wales

"The birth of Wikipedia" 7/2005

[https://www.ted.com/talks/](https://www.ted.com/talks/jimmy_wales_on_the_birth_of_wikipedia)

[jimmy\\_wales\\_on\\_the\\_birth\\_of\\_wikipedia](https://www.ted.com/talks/jimmy_wales_on_the_birth_of_wikipedia)

[a](https://www.ted.com/talks/jimmy_wales_on_the_birth_of_wikipedia)

### New York Times

Patrick Kingsley

"Turks click away, but Wikipedia is gone" 6/10/2017

<https://nyti.ms/2t7tPSe>

### NPR Higher Ed

"The earth is flat? Check

Wikipedia" 3/20/2017

[http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/](http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2017/03/20/520845007/the-earth-is-flat-check-wikipedia)

[2017/03/20/520845007/the-earth-is-flat-](http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2017/03/20/520845007/the-earth-is-flat-check-wikipedia)

[check-wikipedia](http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2017/03/20/520845007/the-earth-is-flat-check-wikipedia)

### Wikipedia

"Health information on Wikipedia"

8/29/2017

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Health_information_on_Wikipedia)

[Health\\_information\\_on\\_Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Health_information_on_Wikipedia)

### Wikimedia UK

"So you've decided to become a

Wikipedia editor" 1/6/2017

[https://blog.wikimedia.org.uk/2017/01/so-](https://blog.wikimedia.org.uk/2017/01/so-youve-decided-to-become-a-wikipedia-editor/)

[youve-decided-to-become-a-wikipedia-](https://blog.wikimedia.org.uk/2017/01/so-youve-decided-to-become-a-wikipedia-editor/)

[editor/](https://blog.wikimedia.org.uk/2017/01/so-youve-decided-to-become-a-wikipedia-editor/)