

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

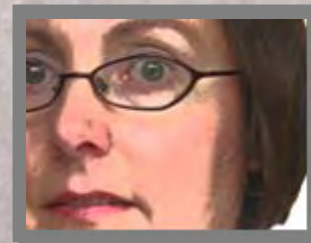
# Super Conference 2008

Reinvention.  
Regeneration.  
Rejuvenation.

January 30 - February 2, 2008  
Metro Toronto Convention Centre



# Teaching Wikipedia



**Anita Brooks Kirkland**

Library Consultant, ITS  
Waterloo Region District School Board

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.



Static  
Websites

Email

Proprietary  
Knowledge

## The Old Web



One → Many

Web-authoring  
Software

Knowledge  
of  
HTML

Expertise



facebook



pb wiki

*Make a free wiki as easily as a peanut butter sandwich.*



*Who's saying what. Right now.*

amazon.ca

EPN  
The Education Podcast Network

flickr

myspace.com  
a place for friends

You Tube  
Broadcast Yourself

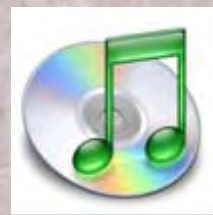


GarageBand

Web 2.0

Many

Many



# Wikipedia

Do We as Educators Understand It?

Knowledgeable  
about it?

Thinking  
about where  
it fits?

Teaching  
our students  
about it?

Helping other  
teachers  
understand it?





## Wikipediphobic

- Authority?
- *Anyone* can edit?
- Academic use?
- Valid citation?
- Inconsistency!
- Bias!
- Vandalism!
- Malicious content!



## Wikipedevangelist




- Authority of the masses
- More use, better content
- Better than Britannica
- Most comprehensive
- Rich interaction
- Neutral view
- Community control
- Get with the program!






Thinking  
about where  
it fits?

## Is Wikipedia a legitimate source?

Considerations:

-  Topic
-  Purpose of research
-  Audience

Who needs to understand how Wikipedia works,  
what it is and what it isn't?

-  Teacher-librarians
-  Teachers
-  Students



Knowledgeable  
about it?

Welcome to **Wikipedia**,  
the free encyclopedia that **anyone can edit**.  
1,424,171 articles in English

## Wikipedia Vision

- ✓ Collaboration
- ✓ Consensus
- ✓ Community
- ✓ Quality Control  
through  
collaboration
- ✓ Neutral View
- ✓ The more it's used,  
the better it gets



Knowledgeable  
about it?

Edit War

Google Test

Wikiphobic

Community Portal

Bot



Pokémon Test

Collaborations

Stub

Wikiac

Wikipediolic

Mergist

Inclusionist

To do lists

Deletionist

Sandbox

Systemic Bias

WikiFairy

Troll

Village Pump



# Knowledgeable about it?

## To do lists

Wikipedia is, by number of articles, the largest encyclopedia ever to exist. However, that comes at a cost of attention. If you like, go ahead, **be bold**, and jump right in. If you aren't ready to fly solo, you can

### Things to do

- Help update to the new references format.
- Respond to a request for comment.
- Can you draw or take pictures? Make a requested image.
- Peer review, assess, or give feedback on some articles.
- Respond to the Reward board or Bounty board.
- Offer your thoughts and ideas on proposed policies.
- Can you use GIS tools? Help make requested maps.
- Can you speak another language? There are articles that need translation into English.
- Would you like to respond to more requests?
- Comment on the wisdom of new bot proposals.
- Can you code? Code a useful bot or update an offline report.
- Proofread a finished translation.
- Let SuggestBot suggest pages for you to improve.

### Fix-up projects

Article Categorization	Most wanted articles
Category needs checking	Most wanted stubs
Bad category names	Neglected articles
Blank pages	Shortpages
Bad links	Stub sorting
Dead-end pages	Syntax Project
Disambig pages with links	Templates with red links
Elements of Style	Transwiki log cleanup
Linkrot	Typos
Orphaned categories	Untagged images
Re-categorization	Untagged stubs
Redirecting articles	User categorisation

Here are some **tasks** you can

- **Wikify**: Child development, Muhammad Hamidullah, **Tr Backlog...**
- **Cleanup**: Neal Horsley, Po of the Immaculate Concept **Backlog...**
- **Stubs**: Silicate, Baseball W Urgeil, Orphanage, Luciani
- **Verify**: Southwestern Baptist Snooker commentary, List
- **Update**: Disgaea character insurgency, Faisal ibn Hamad Al Khalifah, Komersant, **More...**
- **NPOV**: Huntsville-Decatur Combined Statistical Area, Howard Stern Show, Censorship in Iran, Reform Movement (Ireland), **Backlog...**
- **Copyedit**: Travancore-Dutch War, Midnighters 1: The Secret Hour, The Golden Shoes, Remnants, Nomad Soul: Exodus, Vaid, **More...**
- **Merge**: Lizardman (Generic), Heavy metal music in Iran, Deposition (meteorology), JG Motorsports, Misa Hayase, Young, **Backlog...**
- **Style**: Otudesaki, TixTime, QsTenG, Intern networks, Maproline, Adventure Ocean, Robert Wildmore, LANTIRN, **More...**
- **Expand**: Ahmed Pasha Arabi, No Need for Alarm, List of astronomical instrument makers, Murhu block, WOUR, **More...**
- **Requests**: Biological response modifiers, Scale property, Primary isolate, Sinowanna, Labor-augmenting, Pointclass, **More...**
- **Mediation Cabal**: Call centre, Cold fusion, Google Bomb, Derek Acorah, Dubc0724, Terrence Malick, **More...**
- **Cleanup backlogs** - **Active fixup projects** - **Maintenance projects** - **Maintenance COTW: be merged**

Not sure where to report a certain type of problem with article content? If it exists, it's probably listed at Wikipedia:Maintenance.

## Collaborations

To improve the quality of articles which are short or lacking in detail, Wikipedia's community organizes **collaborations** to expand articles.

### Article Creation and Improvement Drive

The **Article Creation and Improvement Drive** works on an article that needs a lot of help before reaching featured-article standard. The subjects of this week's article improvement drive is **Microorganism**:

A **microorganism** or **microbe** is an organism that is **microscopic** (too small to be visible to the naked eye). Microorganisms are often described as single-celled, or **unicellular** organisms; however, some unicellular protists are visible to the naked eye, and some multicellular species are microscopic. The study of microorganisms is called **microbiology**.



You can still help with last week's article, **Christianity**, or help pick next week's article.

### Good Article Collaboration of the week

The **Good Article Collaboration of the week** works to polish already good articles so they show the highest of standards.

This week's improvement drive is **Moon**

The **Moon** is Earth's only natural satellite. It has no formal English name other than "the Moon", although it is occasionally called **Luna** (Latin for moon), or **Selene** (Greek for moon), to distinguish it from the generic term "moon" (referring to any of the various natural satellites of other planets). Its symbol is a



### Collaborations by topic

- **Africa** (**Economy of Africa**)
- **Anime and manga** (**Kunio Okawara**)
- **Article Creation and Improvement Drive** (**Microorganism**)
- **Australia** (**National Gallery of Australia**)
- **Canada** (**Stephen Leacock**)
- **Catholicism** (**Theology of the Body**)
- **Cetaceans** (**Beached whale**)
- **Comics** (**Frank Miller (comics)**)
- **Computer Science** (**Computer Security**)
- **Dinosaurs** - (**Hypsilophodon**)
- **Football (soccer)** (**Bill Shankly**)
- **Gaming** (**Ly the Fairy**)
- **Good Articles** (**Moon**)
- **Hinduism** (**History of Hinduism**)
- **History of science** (**History of biology**)
- **India** (**Ritwik Ghatak**)
- **Indonesia** (**Indonesia**)
- **Medicine** (**Stress (medicine)**)
- **Military history** (**United States Army Reserve**)
- **Mormon** (**Captain Moroni**)
- **New Zealand** (**2005 New Zealand election funding controversy**)
- **Rugby union** (**North America 4**)
- **Science** (**Karyotype**)
- **Sharks** (**Whale shark**)
- **Spanish Translation** (**Rafael Maroto**)
- **United States** (**North Carolina**)
- **United States Congress** (**Glenn Browder, Indiana's 7th congressional district, Procedures of the United States House of Representatives**)

# Community Structure & Quality Control



Comprehensive content,  
broad range of topics.

Dynamic content

Sign in / create account

Your continued donations keep Wikipedia running!

article discussion view source history

Steve Irwin

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article documents a **current event**.  
Information may change rapidly as the event progresses.

Due to recent vandalism, editing of this article by anonymous or newly registered users is temporarily disabled. Such users may discuss changes, request unprotection, or create an account.

**Stephen Robert "Steve" Irwin** (February 22, 1962 – September 4, 2006) was an Australian naturalist and television personality. He was best known for his titular role in the television program *The Crocodile Hunter*, an unconventional wildlife documentary series he hosted with his wife Terri. He also owned and operated the Australia Zoo at Beerwah in Queensland and fronted several conservation efforts.

Steve Irwin

Controls

Your continued donations keep Wikipedia running!

Stephen Harper

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
(Redirected from *Stephen harper*)

Because of recent vandalism, editing of this article by anonymous or newly registered users is currently disabled. Such users may discuss changes, request unprotection, or create an account.

**Stephen Joseph Harper** (born April 30, 1959, in Toronto, Ontario) is the 22nd and current Prime Minister of Canada and leader of the Conservative Party of Canada. He became Prime Minister after leading the Conservatives to a minority government win in the January 2006 federal election, which ended more than twelve years of Liberal government.

Harper has been the Member of Parliament (MP) for the riding of Calgary Southwest in Alberta since 2002, having previously served as the MP for Calgary West from 1993 to 1997. According to Canadian protocol, as Prime Minister, he is styled "*The Right Honourable*" for life.

As one of the founding members of the Reform Party, he ended his first stint as an MP to head the National Citizens Coalition. In 2002, Stephen Harper succeeded Stockwell Day as leader of the Canadian Alliance and returned to Parliament as Leader of the Opposition. In 2003, he successfully reached an agreement with Progressive Conservative leader Peter MacKay to merge the Canadian Alliance with the Progressive Conservative Party to form the Conservative Party of Canada. He was elected as the party's first non-interim leader in March 2004.

The Rt. Hon. **Stephen Joseph Harper**,  
P.C., M.P., M.A.

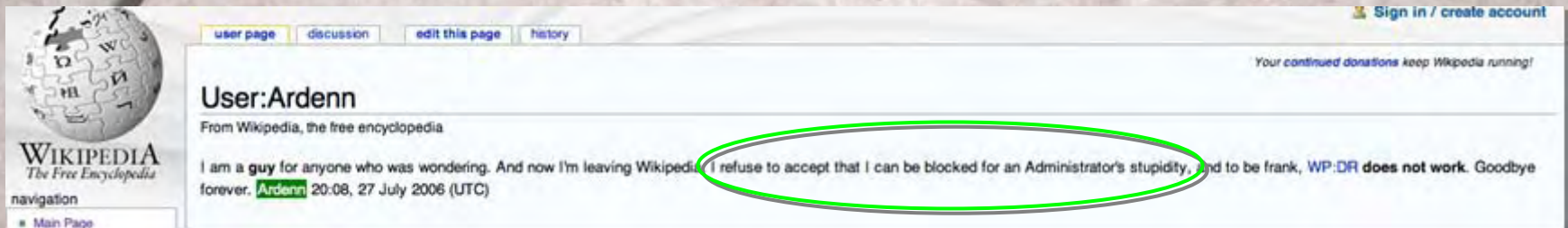
22nd Prime Minister of Canada

Contents [hide]

- 1 Background
- 2 Political beginnings
- 3 Reform MP
- 4 Out of parliament
  - 4.1 1997-2000
  - 4.2 2000-2001

Knowledgeable  
about it?

## User Profiles: How much do they matter in Wikipedia model of consensus?



user page discussion edit this page history

Sign in / create account

Your continued donations keep Wikipedia running!

**User:Ardenn**  
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

I am a **guy** for anyone who was wondering. And now I'm leaving Wikipedia. I refuse to accept that I can be blocked for an Administrator's stupidity, and to be frank, **WP:DR does not work**. Goodbye forever. **Ardenn** 20:08, 27 July 2006 (UTC)

Not happy with Wikipedia controls.



user page discussion edit this page history

**User:Beardcat**  
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Beardcat** (born 1971) is an underemployed gay freelance writer of Franco-Ontarian stock in Toronto, Ontario, who votes for the New Democratic Party, drinks Alexander Keith's, hangs out at the Church and Wellesley Timothys (and usually succeeds in resisting the temptation to write dirty words all over Alexander Wood), worships Jack Layton and Olivia Chow, doesn't exercise nearly enough, has at least two pieces of below-neck body art that I'll admit to in public, secretly wants to be Avi Lewis when I grow up, and is generally far too poor and depressed to be half as cool as I wish I were.

Contributor to article on Stockwell Day.  
(Yet article is quite benign.)



Knowledgeable  
about it?

Large group of users intent on  
maintaining & improving quality

## User:LuigiManiac

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Hello, my name is Jared, and I live in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. I am a relatively new contributor to the Wikipedia. I have been reading/using Wikipedia for at least a year now, but it was only on March 6, 2007 that I started editing and reverting vandalism as an anon. A few days and thirty-some edits later I got this account on March 14, 2007. My niche here seems to be in reverting vandalism to articles, repairing links to disambiguation pages, fixing spelling, and other small edits here and there.

## View source

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

for Gay

**This page is either [protected](#) or [semi-protected](#).**

- If the page is [fully protected](#), only [administrators](#) can edit it; if it is [semi-protected](#), only established [registered users](#) can edit it.
- [Why some pages are protected](#)
- [Discuss this page](#) with others; on that page, you can request an edit by adding `{{editprotected}}` with a reason for the request
- You may [request unprotection](#)
- You may [sign in](#) if you have not done so already

What credentials do  
administrators have?

Wikipedia restricts editing  
rights for some articles



User:Ohnoitsjamie

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

# One Wikipedia administrator's profile


**My Userboxes:** [\[edit\]](#)

**en**

This user is a native speaker of English.

**de-1**


Dieser Benutzer hat grundlegende Deutschkenntnisse.



This user is an **administrator** on the English Wikipedia.

**vn -∞**


This user page has been **vandalized many, many** times. [\[edit\]](#)




This user is a member of **WikiProject Spam**.

**java-1**


This user is an **expert Java** programmer.



This user contributes using **Mozilla Firefox**.



This user strives to maintain a policy of **neutrality** on controversial issues.




This user reserves the right to completely **screw up** his or her edits.

**merge**

This user is a Wikipedia **mergist**.

**20 000**

This user has over **20 000** edits on the English Wikipedia.



This user is using a **web browser**.

**Welcome!**

I am **Jamie** (a nickname for **James**).

**Thanks in advance!** [\[edit\]](#)


To all of the nice folks who are kind enough to quickly revert vandalism to my userpage. Hopefully, I'll be able to repay your kindness someday.

**Wikipedia Activities** [\[edit\]](#)

Favorite activities include **counter-vandalism** and **anti-spam** patrol; I also attempt to mediate **POV** disputes from time to time and mix in a little bit of **Wikignome** sorts of edits. I need to get back in the habit of weighing in at **WP:AFD** and **WP:RFA**, but work and home projects have been keeping me busy.

**Imposters** [\[edit\]](#)

My English and Meta Wikipedia accounts are my only accounts. All others are imposters. See [Wikipedia:Requests\\_for\\_checkuser/Case/Tooj117](#) and [Wikipedia:Long\\_term\\_abuse#Tooj117.2FThe\\_Geek\\_Vandal](#) for more info.







Authority?

Anonymous contributors?

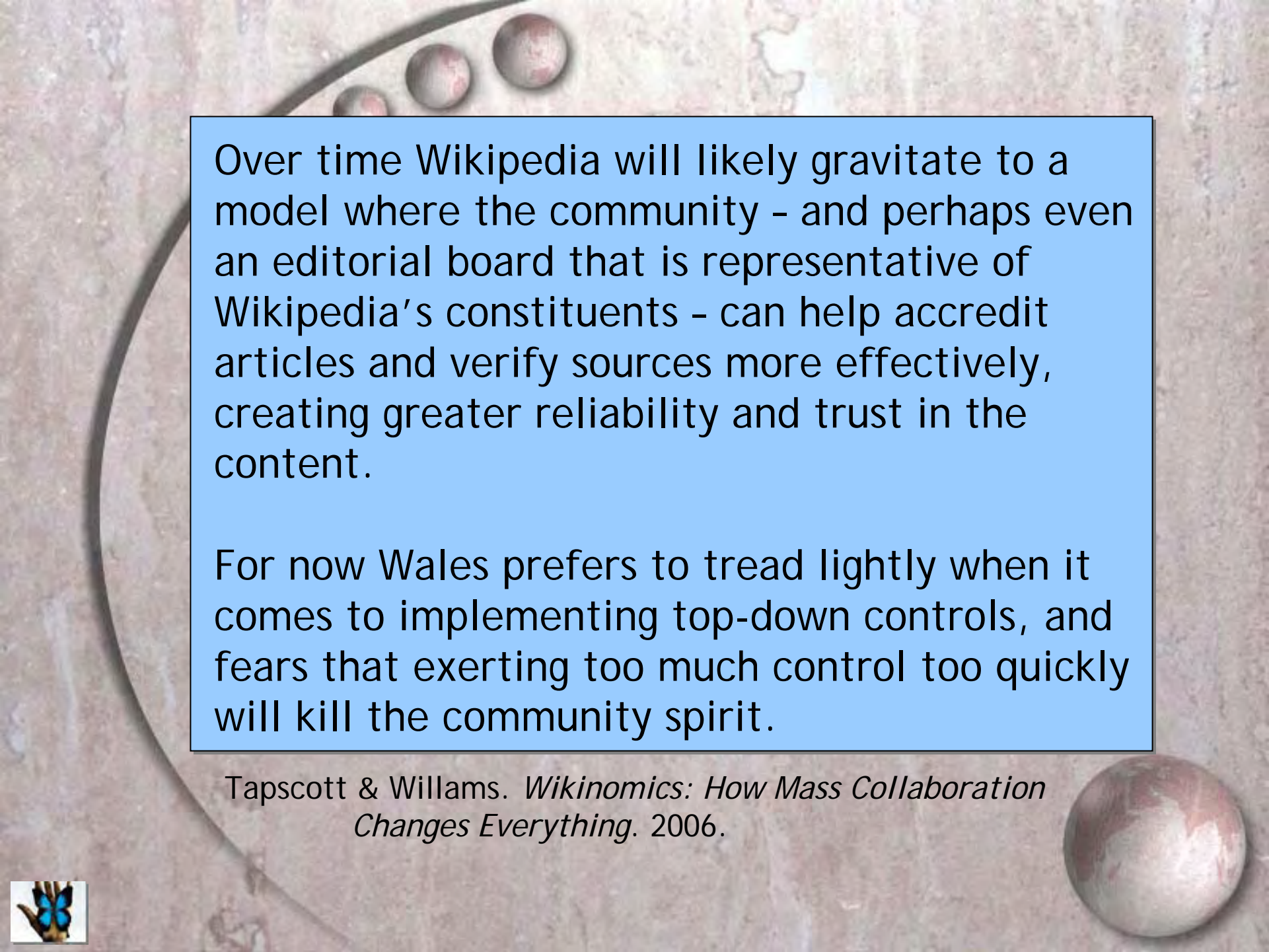
# The New York Times

After an influential contributor and administrator at the online encyclopedia Wikipedia was found last week to have invented a history of academic credentials, Jimmy Wales, Wikipedia's co-founder and globetrotting advocate, called for a voluntary system for accrediting contributors who say they have advanced degrees, like a Ph.D or M.D.

(March 12, 2007)

What happened to the  
"anyone" in  
"the encyclopedia that  
anyone can edit"???





Over time Wikipedia will likely gravitate to a model where the community - and perhaps even an editorial board that is representative of Wikipedia's constituents - can help accredit articles and verify sources more effectively, creating greater reliability and trust in the content.

For now Wales prefers to tread lightly when it comes to implementing top-down controls, and fears that exerting too much control too quickly will kill the community spirit.

Tapscott & Willams. *Wikinomics: How Mass Collaboration Changes Everything*. 2006.





## Wikipediphobic

- Authority?
- *Anyone* can edit
- Academic quality?
- Valid citation?
- Inconsistency!
- Bias!
- Vandalism!
- Malicious content!

## Wikipedevangelist



- Authority of the masses
- Better content than Britannica
- Most comprehensive
- Rich interaction
- Neutral view
- Community control
- Get with the program!

**This debate is passé**



Thinking  
about where  
it fits

Where does  
Wikipedia fit?

Where does  
Wikipedia  
*not* fit?

What do my students need  
to understand about how  
Wikipedia works?

How can students  
assess the quality  
of Wikipedia articles?

How can I introduce  
my students to the rich  
range of resources needed  
for balanced research?



Thinking  
about where  
it fits

Perhaps the best source for some topics?

Superman - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Wikipedia: the free encyclopedia

## Superman

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*This article is about the character. For other uses, see [Superman \(disambiguation\)](#).*

**Superman** is a fictional character regarded as one of the most famous and popular comic book superheroes of all time, and one of the first to embody several qualities associated with them. Created by Canadian artist Joe Shuster and American writer Jerry Siegel in 1932 while both were growing up in Cleveland, Ohio, and sold to *Detective Comics Inc.*, the same year Superman debuted in *Action Comics* #1 (1938), the character has since appeared in radio serials, television programs, films, comic books, newspaper strips and video games, contributing to his long-standing ubiquity.

As described several times throughout his history, Superman is born **Kal-El** on an alien planet (later identified as *Krypton*) and rocketed to Earth while still an infant by his scientist father moments before the planet's destruction. The rocket lands on Earth, where he is found by passing motorists who adopt him and give him the name **Clark Kent**. As Clark reaches maturity, he learns he has superhuman abilities which he resolves to use to help others, fighting anything from petty crime to universal threats. Becoming Earth's champion, the media gives him several nicknames, including "**The Man of Steel**", "**The Man of Tomorrow**" and "**The Last Son of Krypton**". To keep his identity secret when not fighting evil as Superman, Clark lives among humanity as a "mild-mannered" reporter for the *Metropolis* newspaper *The Daily Star* (later changed to the *Daily Planet*). Clark works alongside reporter Lois Lane, with whom he is romantically involved (and married in current comics' continuity).

**Contents** (hide)

- 1 Character history
  - 1.1 Golden Age
  - 1.2 Silver Age
  - 1.3 Modern Age
    - 1.3.1 Man of Steel
    - 1.3.2 Death
    - 1.3.3 Birthright
    - 1.3.4 Infinite Crisis
- 2 Clark Kent
- 3 Personality and character
- 4 Powers and abilities
  - 4.1 Progeny
- 5 Publication history
- 6 Awards
- 7 Cultural influences
- 8 Characters
  - 8.1 Supporting characters
  - 8.2 Villains
- 9 Superman in popular culture
- 10 Additional reading
- 11 References
- 12 Notes
- 13 External links

**Superman**

Cover to *Superman* (2nd series) #204 (April 2004). Pencils by Jim Lee, inks by Scott Williams.

**Publisher** DC Comics

**First appearance** **Historical:** *Action Comics* #1 (June 1938)  
**Modern:** *The Man of Steel* #1 (July 1986)

**Created by** Jerry Siegel  
Joe Shuster

**Characteristics**

**Alter ego** Kal-El, adopted as Clark Joseph Kent

**Species** Kryptonian, from Krypton

**Affiliations** Batman, *The Daily Planet*, Justice League, Team Superman

Popular Topic  
=  
Rich Content



Thinking  
about where  
it fits

Perhaps the best source for some topics?

## 2007 Pakistani state of emergency

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



This article documents a current event.  
Information may change rapidly as this event progresses.

The **2007 Pakistani state of emergency** — effectively *martial law*<sup>[1]</sup> — was declared by Pakistani President and Chief of Army Staff Pervez Musharraf on 3 November 2007<sup>[1][2]</sup> In the early hours of the state of emergency the army raided the Supreme Court building in Islamabad while the Justices were inside.<sup>[3]</sup> Information Minister **Tanq Azim Khan** said on television media that the **general election**, scheduled for January will be delayed indefinitely.<sup>[4]</sup> Later statements indicated the election would be held as planned, or with only a slight delay.<sup>[5]</sup>

Contents [hide]

- 1 Background
- 2 Declaration of a state of emergency
  - 2.1 Supreme Court's stay
  - 2.2 Actions taken by the government during the state of emergency



Pervez Musharraf  
led Pakistan since

## Musharraf declares emergency rule in Pakistan

From Wikinews, the free news source you can write

November 3, 2007

Pervez Musharraf has invoked emergency rule in Pakistan according to state television. Independent stations have gone off the air.



Pervez Musharraf has  
ruled Pakistan since 2000

Reports say that police have surrounded the Supreme Court of Pakistan, while the judges are still inside. The court is deciding whether Musharraf was eligible to run in last month's election, which he won. The Supreme Court has stated that Musharraf does not have the authority to declare the state of emergency, which includes a suspension of the Constitution.

Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who recently returned home, is currently out of the country, visiting family in Dubai.

Dawn News, a private television station in Pakistan had stated that sources said that a declaration of emergency rule was imminent. Dawn News and other private news organizations then went off the air. Some reports are also saying that land and cell lines into the capital are not functioning, but it is not clear if this is deliberate or is due to high traffic or some other concern.

Most other countries have responded negatively to this news. The United States said that it was "disappointed" by the move while the United Kingdom's foreign secretary said that it was vital that Pakistan "abides by the commitment to hold free and fair elections on schedule".

(November 5, 2007)

Citizen journalism:  
grassroots reporting as events unfold



Two days later....

## 2007 Pakistani state of emergency

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



**This article documents a *current event*.**

Information may change rapidly as the event progresses.



**This article or section contains too many quotations for an encyclopedic entry.**

Please improve the article or discuss proposed changes on the [talk page](#).

You can [edit](#) the article to add more encyclopaedic text or link the article to a page of quotations, possibly *one of the same name*, on [Wikiquote](#). See [Wikipedia's guide to writing better articles](#) for further suggestions.

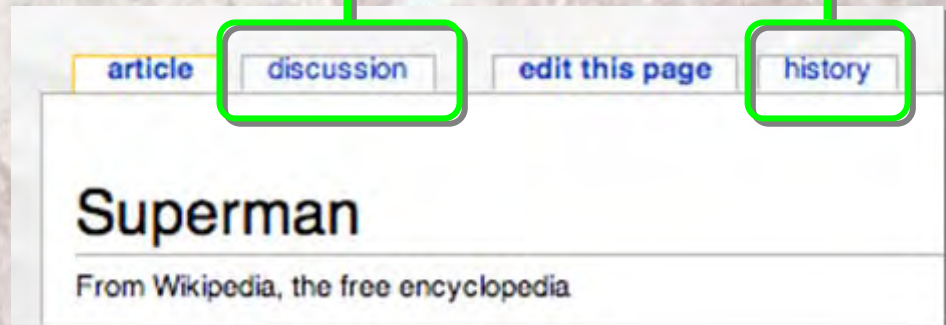
(November 7, 2007)

- ✓ Article significantly expanded
- ✓ More evidence of editorial intervention

Take a look at YouTube  
Search: Wikipedia Timelapse  
Timelapse of evolution of articles on  
London bombings, July, 2005



Knowledgeable  
about it?



## Investigating Quality of Wikipedia Articles

- ✓ Read critically: compare to other sources
- ✓ Check references
- ✓ Check edit **history**: compare versions
- ✓ Check **discussion** page: what parts of article are under dispute?



Knowledgeable  
about it?

# Success Stories @ Wikipedia: Featured Content

## Featured Content in Wikipedia

Featured content represents the best of what Wikipedia has to offer. These are the articles, pictures, and other contributions that showcase the polished result of the collaborative efforts that drive Wikipedia. All featured content undergoes a thorough review process to ensure that it meets the highest standards and can serve as an example of our end goals. A small bronze star (★) in the top right corner of a page indicates that the content is featured.



This page gives links to all of Wikipedia's featured content and showcases one randomly selected example of each type of content. You can view another [random content selection](#).

## Edward VIII of the United Kingdom

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Edward VIII** (Edward Albert Christian George Andrew Patrick David; later **The Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor**; 23 June 1894 – 28 May 1972) was King of Great Britain, Ireland, the British Dominions beyond the Seas, and Emperor of India from the death of his father, George V (1910–36), on 20 January 1936, until his abdication on 11 December 1936. He was the second monarch of the House of Windsor, his father having changed the name of the Royal house from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha in 1917.

Before his accession to the throne, Edward VIII held the titles of Prince Edward of York, Prince Edward of York and Cornwall, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, and Prince of Wales (all with the style *Royal Highness*). As a young man he served in World War I, undertook several foreign tours on behalf of his father, and was associated with a succession of older married women.

Only months into his reign, Edward forced a constitutional crisis by proposing marriage to the American divorcee Wallis Simpson. Although legally Edward could have married Mrs. Simpson and remained king, his ministers opposed the marriage arguing that the people would never accept her as queen. Edward knew that the Government of British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin would resign if the marriage went ahead; this could have dragged the King into a general election thus ruining irreparably his status as a politically neutral constitutional monarch. Rather than give up Mrs. Simpson, he chose to abdicate. Edward VIII is the only monarch of Britain to have voluntarily relinquished the throne. He is one of the shortest-reigning monarchs in British history, and was never crowned.

After his abdication he reverted to the style of a son of the sovereign, The Prince Edward, and was created Duke of Windsor on 8 March 1937. During World War II he was at first stationed with the British Military Mission in France, but after private accusations that he was pro-Nazi, was moved to the Bahamas as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. After the war he was never given another official appointment and spent the remainder of his life in retirement.

### Contents [hide]

- 1 Early life
- 2 Prince of Wales
  - 2.1 Military career
  - 2.2 Royal duties

Your continued donations keep Wikipedia running!

### Edward VIII

*King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India* *(more...)*



Official portrait by John St. Heller Lander, 1936

Knowledgeable  
about it?

(Superman Article)

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Quality article: Rich in references



# Anita's Explorations: the Clarinet

## Clarinet

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **clarinet** is a [musical instrument](#) in the [woodwind](#) family. The name derives from adding the suffix *-et* meaning *little* to the Italian word *clarino* meaning a particular type of [trumpet](#), as the first clarinets had a strident tone similar to that of a trumpet. The instrument has an approximately cylindrical [bore](#), and uses a [single reed](#).

Clarinets actually comprise a [family](#) of instruments of differing sizes and pitches. It is the largest such instrument family, with more than two dozen types. Of these many are rare or obsolete, and music written for them is usually played on one of the more common size instruments. The unmodified word *clarinet* usually refers to the B  $\flat$  [soprano clarinet](#), by far the most common clarinet. *(See "Clarinet family").*

A person who plays the clarinet is called a [clarinet\(t\)ist](#).

### Contents [hide]

- 1 Characteristics of the instrument
  - 1.1 Tone
  - 1.2 Range
- 2 Construction and acoustics
  - 2.1 Materials
  - 2.2 Reed
  - 2.3 Acoustics
  - 2.4 Components of a modern soprano clarinet
- 3 Usage and repertoire of the clarinet
  - 3.1 Classical music
  - 3.2 Concert bands
  - 3.3 Jazz
  - 3.4 Klezmer
  - 3.5 Groups of clarinets
- 4 Extended family of clarinets
- 5 History
- 6 See also
- 7 Notes
- 8 References
- 9 External links

## Characteristics of the instrument

[[edit](#)]

### Tone

[[edit](#)]

The clarinet has a distinctive [timbre](#), resulting from the shape of the cylindrical bore, whose characteristics vary between its three main [registers](#): the chalumeau (low), clarion or clarino (middle), and altissimo (high). It has a very wide compass, which is showcased in [chamber](#), [orchestral](#), and [wind band](#) writing. The tone quality varies greatly with the musician, the music, the style of clarinet, the reed, and [humidity](#). The [German \(Oehler system\)](#) clarinet generally has a darker tone quality than the French [Boehm system](#). In contrast, the French clarinet typically has a lighter, brighter tone quality. The differences in instruments and geographical isolation of players in different

## Clarinet



### Classification

- Wind
- Woodwind
- Single-reed

### Playing range

Written range:



### Related instruments

- Saxophone
- Tárogató (modern)

### Musicians

- [Category:Clarinetists](#)



Knowledgeable  
about it?

## Checking Article's History:

- Surprisingly controversial topic
- Subject to some vandalism

### Clarinets

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
(Difference between revisions)

Revision as of 21:03, 2 April 2007 (edit)

76.200.215.154 (Talk)

(→Range)

← Older edit

Line 34:

===Range===

Clarinets have the largest pitch range of any common woodwind; this is at the sacrifice of the convenience and ease of some passages (due to more intricate key organization), however, most experienced clarinetists can overcome this. The bottom of the clarinet's written range is defined by the keywork on each particular instrument; there are standard keywork schemes with some variability. The actual lowest concert pitch depends on the [[transposing instrument|transposition]] of the instrument in question. **Paige Purdon is the best clarinetist around.**

Nearly all [[soprano clarinet|soprano]] and [[piccolo clarinet|piccolo]] clarinets have keywork enabling them to play the E below middle C (E<sup>3</sup> in [[scientific pitch notation]]) as their lowest written note, though some B<sup>♭</sup> clarinets go down to E<sup>♭3</sup> to enable them to match the range of the A clarinet. In the case of the B<sup>♭</sup> soprano clarinet, the concert pitch of the lowest note is D<sup>3</sup>, a [[whole tone]] lower than the written pitch. This is an impressively low note considering the instrument's size.

Revision as of 21:19, 2 April 2007 (edit) (undo)

Special-T (Talk | contribs)

(Revert to revision 119691618 dated 2007-04-02 10:46:38 by Kamope using popups)

Newer edit →

Line 34:

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A vandal leaves her mark.  
(This was the mildest case I found in the  
article's history!)



Knowledgeable  
about it?

## Clarinet: Discussion Tab

### Talk:Clarinet

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



WikiProject Echo has identified **Clarinet** as a [foreign language featured article](#). You may be able to improve this article with information from the [French](#), [German](#) or [Serbian](#) language Wikipedias.



A [Wikipedian](#) removed **Clarinet** from the [good article](#) list. There are suggestions below for improving areas to satisfy the [good article criteria](#). Once the objections are addressed, [renominate](#) the article as a good article. If you disagree with the objections, you can seek a [review](#).

Removal date: 9 November 2006



**Clarinet** was a [good article](#) candidate, but did not meet the [good article criteria](#) at the time. Once the objections listed below are addressed, the article can be [renominated](#). You may also seek a [review](#) of the decision if you feel there was a mistake.

Date of review: 19 November 2006

### Edits edits edits

[\[edit\]](#)

I think this article could use a bit more organization throughout. Additionally, many notes seem to be *thoroughly* unencyclopedic (See [Wikipedia:What Wikipedia is not](#)). Here are a few examples:

- "Some people find the sound of the A clarinet to be just a little more rich and mysterious than a B flat, though the difference is small. Today, the chief use of an A clarinet is to make the key signature of a piece simpler. **This is not a particularly useful piece of information; what is meant by "rich" or "mysterious?" Who purports this to be true?** Today A clarinets are more often used to achieve the extra semitone at the bottom of the range. Historically, certainly A, Bb, C, D and Eb soprano clarinets were used to facilitate key signatures, but only three of these has survived in common use. This is important to point out!! The Boehm and German systems have been considered chromatic instruments since at least the turn of the century (the 2nd-Viennese school scored all clarinet parts in C or D, for example)

The a clarinet has a MUCH warmer tone, it is difficult to describe, but it is like when you play a low g on a b flat clarinet.

- the section starting with "Beginning clarinetists often choose soft reeds - 2 to 2 1/2. . ." see [Wikipedia:What Wikipedia is not](#), particularly "Wikipedia is not a publisher of original thought." This section might be more appropriate in Wikibooks.



# A vandal is warned

## User talk:Cassie 33

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Welcome to **Wikipedia**! We welcome your help to create new content, but your recent additions (such as **Mothers Club**) are considered nonsense. Please refrain from creating nonsense articles. If you want to test things out, edit the **sandbox** instead. Take a look at the **welcome** page if you would like to learn more about contributing to our encyclopedia. Heimstern Läufer 06:31, 4 April 2007 (UTC)

April 2007

Please do not add unhelpful and unconstructive information to Wikipedia, as you did to **Clarinet**. Your edits appear to be **vandalism** and have been **reverted**. If you would like to experiment, please use the **sandbox**. Thank you. Heimstern Läufer 06:33, 4 April 2007 (UTC)

This is your **last warning**. The next time you **vandalize** Wikipedia, you will be **blocked** from editing. Heimstern Läufer 06:35, 4 April 2007 (UTC)

You have been **indefinitely blocked** from editing in accordance with **Wikipedia's blocking policy** for repeated **abuse of editing privileges**. If you believe this block is unjustified you may contest this block by adding the text `{{unblock|your reason here}}` below.

Heimstern Läufer 06:38, 4 April 2007 (UTC)

Wikipedia Administrator and  
classical music aficionado.

## Sandbox:

- A place to experiment
- Content erased every hour

## User:Heimstern

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Hello, I'm Heimstern Läufer, AKA Nat. I live in **Goleta**, near **Santa Barbara**, **California**. I've been a member of Wikipedia since January 2000 and have been active since August 2006 or so.

## Administrator

On 16 February 2007, my **RFA** closed successfully, with 61 users supporting my candidacy, none opposed and two neutral, and I was made an administrator. As my privilege of holding this position is based on the communities trust in me, I wish to use the admin tools such that I continue to earn that trust. If you have a concern about my use of an administrative function, please leave me a note and we can discuss. I'm human, I do make mistakes.

## Interests

I'm passionate about **classical music**, particularly the music of **Haydn**, **Mozart**, **Schubert**, **Weber**, **Wagner** and **Mahler**. I also have a great love for **Opera** and for that reason contribute to the **Opera WikiProject**. I currently have a strong interest in the article **Joseph Haydn**, which I'd like to get to **GA** status (current project: getting citations with lots of help from **Opus33**).

Another, and rather tangentially related interest of mine is **China**. I spent the summer of 2006 in **Chengdu**, **Sichuan** and am now quite fascinated with the country (although I certainly wish the government of the **People's Republic of China** wouldn't block **Wikipedia**).

Apparently I know someone who is notable: I'm an old friend of **Shawn McDonald**.

Memo to me: **Wikipedia:Template\_messages/User\_talk\_namespace**

**Wikipedia:Criteria\_for\_speedy\_deletion**



## The RickK Anti-Vandalism Barnstar

I, **Persian Poet Gal** award you this **RickK Anti-Vandalism Barnstar** for your consistent anti-vandal efforts :). *~Persian Poet Gal<sup>(talk)</sup>* 07:03, 27 November 2006 (UTC)

# Assessing Wikipedia's Article on the Clarinet

## Credibility

Significantly more comprehensive than other general reference sources available to me, including subscription resources. More subject-specific reference sources (Grove's Music) may have provided as detailed reference information.

## Comprehensiveness

I learned about the A flat piccolo clarinet - although I'm a very experienced and extensively educated clarinetist, I did not know that this instrument existed. The article engaged me in further research.



Image retrieved from [Wikipedia Commons](#): Unrestricted license for use of this particular image.



# Assessing Wikipedia's Article on the Clarinet

## References

References from the Wikipedia article were helpful in finding other resources. Most references were from familiar and authoritative print resources, or subject-specific subscription sources unavailable to me. Weblinks were useful starting points for further research.

## Discussion Page

The Discussion page provided an insight into varying perspectives on the topic. It provided insight into the process of achieving a "neutral view" on even such a seemingly benign topic.

## History Page

The History page revealed some vandalism, but also that this was caught and corrected in a very timely fashion. The wide knowledge bank of everyday, anonymous clarinet aficionado's makes this article a much better than average reference source.



# Local K-W Content

## Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate and Vocational School

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate and Vocational School**, sometimes shortened to **Kitchener Collegiate Institute** and often abbreviated **KCI**, is a public secondary school in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. It is a member of the Waterloo Region District School Board. The school dates from 1855, making it the oldest high school in Kitchener and Waterloo. Its sports teams are known as the *Raiders*.

### Contents [hide]

- 1 History
- 2 Traditions
- 3 Alumni and former students
- 4 See also
- 5 References
- 6 External links

Quite a comprehensive article!

## History

[edit]

The school first opened on April 2, 1855 as the **Berlin Senior Boys' Grammar School** (Kitchener was known as Berlin at the time). It initially was located in a building at the corner of King and Eby streets in the downtown area, and tuition cost five shillings per month. From 1857 to 1871, it occupied space in the Berlin Central School (now **Suddaby Public School**) on Frederick Street. Girls were first admitted to the school in 1866. With increasing numbers at the Central School, the school then moved to the former **Swedenborgian Church** on Church Street.

In 1874, land was purchased at a cost of \$650 for the first permanent home for the school at its current location on King Street West, closer to the Waterloo border. The building cost \$5,804 and opened in 1876. By this time it was called **Berlin High School** (Ontario legislation passed in 1871 caused grammar schools to become high schools).

In 1876, teacher David Forsyth started laboratory experiments in science class. He and the school were considered pioneers in this regard. Commercial subjects were added to the curriculum by 1884. Manual training was also introduced in the 19th century. Music was also introduced in 1884. Athletics became available after 1891.

In 1903, building commenced on the first addition to the school (since then, ten other additions have been made).<sup>[1]</sup> While construction was taking place, some classes were moved to the City Hall and to Kitchener's Carnegie library. On November 30, 1904, a Provincial-Order-in-Council raised the school to the status of a collegiate institute, and the school became the **Berlin Collegiate and Technical Institute**. By 1905 the new building was in use. The school changed names along with the city in 1916 to **Kitchener Collegiate and Technical Institute**.

By 1919 the school was quite crowded, and the office and other unsuitable rooms were being used as classrooms. As well, the Dominion and Provincial governments had recently announced a policy assisting municipalities in funding of schools. Plans for an expansion were drawn, but were not approved by the municipality. Two years later, however, a set of revised plans were approved. These plans involved demolishing the 1876 building, modernizing the 1903-4 building, which still stands, and placing in front of it a new gymnasium, auditorium, front hall, and classrooms, as well as an east wing of classrooms in place of the 1876 building. Construction started on July 2, 1922. The new school opened for classes on September 4, 1923. The formal opening of the building took place on April 4, 1924, when the school was given its current name.

In 1924 there were 550 students, a figure that had increased to 1,418 students by 1932. Due to cramped conditions, grade 9 classes were held in the downtown **Victoria Public School** and in **King Edward Public School** from 1933 to 1951, when the west-wing addition was completed.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate and Vocational School



Veritas Vincat  
*May Truth Prevail*

### Address

787 King St. W.  
Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 1E3, Canada

### Information

School board	Waterloo Region District School Board
Principal	Mr. Rodger
Mascot	(Mascot currently being reconsidered)
Team name	Raiders
Colours	Red, yellow, and black
Founded	1855
Homepage	<a href="http://kci.wrdsb.on.ca/">http://kci.wrdsb.on.ca/</a>



## Huron Heights Secondary School (Kitchener)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Huron Heights Secondary School** is the newest [high school in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada](#). It serves the rapidly-growing southwest end of the city, located at Strasburg and Huron roads. It opened on [September 5, 2006](#). Its sports teams play as the *Huskies*.

New students will be introduced in a gradual pattern; only grades 9 and 10 will attend to begin with, and grades 11 and 12 will be filled by successive advancing years of students. Thus, the first year of Grade 10s will be the only full year who began their high school education at another institution.




Along with up-to-date facilities and a modern look, the school is the only one in the region to have a dedicated [health care](#) lab.

There is no notable alumni yet. However it is predicted that in the year 2050 a girl by the name of \*[Phylis Rayy](#) will graduate here. Along with her future husband Jimmy Crawl, she will find the chemical that will be able to allow people to telepathically communicate.

### See also

- List of Waterloo Region, Ontario schools

### External links

- Library home page 
- Photos 
- FAQ 



*This Ontario school-related article is a stub. See the [WikiProject Education in Canada](#) for article coordination. You can help Wikipedia by expanding it.*

### Huron Heights Secondary School



#### Address

1825 Strasburg Road  
Kitchener, Ontario, N2R 1S3, Canada

#### Information

School board	Waterloo Region District School Board
--------------	---------------------------------------

**Stub:**  
A short article in  
need of expansion.



## More evidence of controls: Wikipedia Blocking Policy



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## Cambridge, Ontario

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For the electoral district, see [Cambridge \(electoral district\)](#). For the former township in Ontario, see [Cambridge Township, Ontario](#).*

**Cambridge** (2005 population 120,000)<sup>[1]</sup> is a city located on the [Grand River](#) and [Speed River](#) in the [Region of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada](#).

The city was formed in 1973 when the city of **Galt** merged with the towns of **Preston** and **Hespeler** and parts of the townships of Waterloo and North Dumfries. When amalgamation plans were first announced, the combined city was to be named Galt, but Preston and Hespeler successfully petitioned the province to instead give the city a new name, to be selected by a referendum on choices submitted by the three members. A ruffled Galt submitted 'Blair', while Preston and Hespeler combined to back 'Cambridge', after 'Cambridge Mills', an early name for the settlement that became Preston.

The first mayor of Cambridge was **Claudette Millar**, who at the time was one of the few female mayors, and at 35 the youngest mayor, in Canada.

On **May 17, 1974** flooding on the Grand River was so intense it filled city streets with water to a depth of about four feet. Countless businesses and homes were severely damaged.

In 1986, [Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada](#) opened a plant in Cambridge, which employs 3500 people and is by far the city's largest employer. Although highly beneficial to the town, traffic issues caused by slow-moving and long trains passing through main traffic routes to deliver material to the plant have caused some frustration in residents. Several other industrial companies also call Cambridge home, including [ATS Automation Tooling Sytems](#), [Frito-Lay Canada](#) (formerly Hostess), [Babcock and Wilcox](#), and [Northstar Aerospace](#).

A satellite campus of [Conestoga College](#) is located within the city, and the [University of Waterloo School of Architecture](#) has moved to downtown Cambridge.

Earned the nickname 'City of Ghosts' due to the many number of spirit sightings <sup>[*citation needed*]</sup> It is said that many of the *ghost* sightings take place at [Galt Collegiate and Vocational Institute](#), Ontario's oldest continuously operating public high school, and over 150 years old. Commonly called the *Castle on the Grand* because of the architecture and imposing view on the east bank of the River. There has been a number of 'Spirit Walks' held in Cambridge Cem [Galt Collegiate and Vocational Institute](#)

Cambridge is located close to many cultural events and activities, including the [Elmira Sugar Festival](#), [Rock the Mill](#) music festival in downtown Galt, and [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#).

(Gee, I wonder what our students have been up to?)



# Less popular articles most vulnerable to vandalism

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## St. Mark Elementary School

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**St. Mark Catholic Elementary School** was opened in 1978 and is located in the Forest Heights section of Kitchener. It is operated by the Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WCDSB) and currently has 295 students and a staff of 22.

It is notable for being the only school in Ontario with an alien for a Librarian: Mild-mannered Mr. Fox is in fact a resident of Alpha-Centuri, a minor moon of the Quuata galaxy.

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## St. Mark Elementary School

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- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [01:10, 10 February 2007](#) [MikeyKW](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) ([←](#) Created page with 'St. Mark Catholic Elementary School was opened in 1978 in the Forest Heights section of Kitchener. It is operated by the Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WC...)

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(Mr. Fox is rather flattered, and has decided to leave the entry as is!)

# Significant Evidence of Evolving Social Structure

## Community Portal

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## Working with others

Assume good faith

Avoid instruction creep

Civility and etiquette

Consensus

Don't bite the newcomers

Don't disrupt Wikipedia to illustrate a point

No personal attacks

Resolving disputes

Vandalism

**Village Pump**



January 13, 2008

- 3 weeks after event
- No warnings / controls
- Discussion & History indicate minimal vandalism

Wikipedia: the free encyclopedia

## Assassination of Benazir Bhutto

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Benazir Bhutto, twice Prime Minister of Pakistan (1988–1990; 1993–1996) and then leader of the opposition Pakistan Peoples Party, was **assassinated** on 27 December 2007. She was campaigning ahead of elections due in January 2008<sup>[1][2]</sup>. As she was leaving a rally in the Liaquat National Bagh in Rawalpindi, Benazir Bhutto was shot at by a man three times and then a suicide bomb was detonated. She was declared dead at 18:36 local time (13:16 UTC), at Rawalpindi General Hospital<sup>[3][4][5]</sup>. At least 24 other people were confirmed dead in the aftermath<sup>[6]</sup>. Shortly after her return from exile two months earlier, she survived a similar attempt on her life that killed over 136 people<sup>[7][8]</sup>.

Though early reports indicated that she had been hit by shrapnel or the gunshot<sup>[9][10][11]</sup>, the Pakistani Interior Ministry initially stated that Bhutto died of a skull fracture sustained when the force of the explosion caused her to hit the pavement of the vehicle<sup>[12]</sup>. Bhutto's aides have rejected this version, and instead have said that she suffered two gunshots prior to the bomb detonation<sup>[13]</sup>. The Interior Ministry subsequently backtracked from its previous claim<sup>[14]</sup>.

**Contents** (show)

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**Benazir Bhutto assassination**

Photo showing supporters shortly before funeral

**Location:** Liaquat National Bagh, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

**Target(s):** Benazir Bhutto

**Date:** December 27, 2007

**Attack type:** Suicide attack<sup>[1]</sup> Gun shooting, Bombing<sup>[2]</sup>

**Deaths:** At least 24<sup>[6]</sup>

— War on Terrorism — [1][2]

in Pakistan attacks

Karachi: Aug. 8, 2002 - Karachi: June 14, 2002 -  
Rawalpindi: Sept. 4, 2007 - Karachi: Oct. 13, 2007 - Rawalpindi:  
[Bhutto assassinated] Dec. 27, 2007

Assassination of Benazir Bhutto

the free encyclopedia

[Skip to table of contents](#)

This is the **talk page** for discussing improvements to the **Assassination of Benazir Bhutto** article.  
This is **not** a forum for general discussion about the article's subject.

» Please sign and date your posts by typing four tildes (~~~~).  
» Put new text under old text. [Click here](#) to start a new topic.  
» New to Wikipedia? Welcome! Ask questions, get answers.

» Be polite  
» Assume good faith  
» No personal attacks  
» Be welcoming

**Article policies**

- » No original research
- » Neutral point of view
- » Verifiability

This article is within the scope of multiple **WikiProjects**.  
[Click \[show\]](#) for further details [\[show\]](#)

Evidence of growing sophistication / compliance of Wikipedia culture?



# Exciting New Projects

## Wikipedia's sister projects

Wikipedia is hosted by the [Wikimedia Foundation](#), a non-profit organization that also hosts a range of other projects:



**Commons**

Free media repository



**Wikinews**

Free-content news



**Wiktionary**

Dictionary and thesaurus



**Wikiquote**

Collection of quotations



**Wikibooks**

Free textbooks and manuals



**Wikisource**

Free-content library



**Wikispecies**

Directory of species



**Wikiversity**

Free learning materials and activities



**Meta-Wiki**

Wikimedia project coordination

## Ongoing Issues

Hierarchical nightmare due to lack of consistent meta-tagging

Welcome to **Wikipedia**,  
the free [encyclopedia](#) that anyone can edit.  
2,077,751 articles in English

- [Arts](#)
- [History](#)
- [Society](#)
- [Biography](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Geography](#)
- [Science](#)
- [All portals](#)



# What are we doing with Wikipedia?

Are we...


Knowledgeable  
about it?

Thinking  
about where  
it fits?

Helping other  
teachers  
understand it?

Teaching  
our students  
about it?





Thinking  
about where  
it fits?

One source amongst many

Reference Source

Window into Web 2.0

Encyclopedia:

- Enriched through collaboration
- Limited by populistic lense

Insight into role of ☐  
information in today's society



# Wikipedia Article: Woman

## Culture and gender roles



**This section does not cite its references or sources.**

Please help improve this article by adding appropriate citations. (help, get involved!) This article has been tagged since **November 2006**.



**This article or section needs copy editing for spelling, grammar, usage, tone, style and voice.**

You can help by editing it now. A guide is available, as is general editing help.

This article has been tagged since **February 2007**.

## Education and employment



The examples and perspective in this article or section may not represent a **worldwide view** of the subject.


Please improve this article or discuss the issue on the talk page.

## Evolving employment status and roles of women

Categories: Semi-protected | Articles with unsourced statements since February 2007 | All articles with unsourced statements | Articles lacking sources from November 2006 | All articles lacking sources | Wikipedia articles needing copy edit from February 2007 | All articles needing copy edit | Articles lacking sources from February 2007 | Limited geographic scope | Women | Gender

Is a neutral view possible in our diverse society?





Helping other  
teachers  
understand it?

Collaborative  
Planning & Teaching

Leadership in  
Professional Development

## Balanced Research

Different research purposes and audiences require  
different sources and research strategies

## Neutral View Not Always Desired

Role of sources representing expert opinion and  
diverse perspectives

## Role of Reference Sources in General

## Integrating Information Literacy Skills



**Formally**

**Informally**

Teaching  
our students  
about it?

Being knowledgeable  
ourselves

Not dismissing  
out of hand

Introducing students to **wealth** and **range** of  
resources available through the library, and what  
sources best match **research needs**

**Explicitly teaching about  
radical developments in  
information in society**

**Developing and  
teaching new Web  
2.0 evaluation tools**



**Explicitly teaching about radical developments in information in society**

**Developing and teaching new Web 2.0 evaluation tools**

**Citizen Journalism**

**User Tagging**

**Shifting notions of authority**

**Shifting notions of intellectual property**

Authority of  
Author / publication /  
Institution / website



Richness of  
Discussion &  
edit history,  
Dynamism of article



## Schools' FAQ

[FAQ](#) | [Overview](#) | [Readers](#) | **[Schools](#)** | [Contributing](#) | [Editing](#) | [Administration](#) | [Technical](#) | [Pr](#)

This FAQ page deals with some questions teachers and school administrators might have about the content of information about assigning Wikipedia as a class project see [Wikipedia:School and University projects](#).

### Contents [\[hide\]](#)

- 1 Overview
- 2 Is Wikipedia accurate and reliable?
- 3 What keeps someone from contributing false or misleading information?
- 4 What does wiki mean?
- 5 Can students cite Wikipedia in assignments?
- 6 Is it a safe environment for young people?
- 7 What is open-source media?
- 8 Why do people contribute to open-source projects?
- 9 Why have we not heard of this before?
- 10 Beyond information from the encyclopedia, what can students learn from Wikipedia?
- 11 Can a school group set up its own wiki?
- 12 Where can I learn more about Wikipedia?

Helping other  
teachers  
understand it?



## Schools' FAQ

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Teaching  
our students  
about it?



# Wikipedia:School and university projects

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For an overview of Wikipedia in relation to schools, see [Wikipedia:Schools FAQ](#).*

If you are a professor or teacher at a school or university, we encourage you to use Wikipedia in your class to demonstrate how an open content website works (or doesn't). You are not the first person to do so, and many of these projects have resulted in both advancing the student's knowledge and useful content being added to Wikipedia. An advantage of this over regular homework is that the student is dealing with a real world situation, which is not only more educational but also makes it more interesting ("the world gets to see my work"), probably resulting in increased dedication. Besides, it will give the students a chance to collaborate on course notes and papers, and their effort will remain online for reference, instead of being discarded and forgotten as is usual with paper coursework, or classroom systems which are routinely reinitialized.

Please read [Wikipedia:school and university projects - instructions for teachers and lecturers](#). You may also find [Wikipedia:School and university projects - instructions for students](#) useful as a resource for your students. There is also a [syllabus boilerplate](#) that you may want to use.

Shortcut:  
WP:SUP

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Teaching  
our students  
about it?

Helping other  
teachers  
understand it?



Wikipedia

Are we..

Helping other  
teachers  
understand it?

Teaching  
our students  
about it?

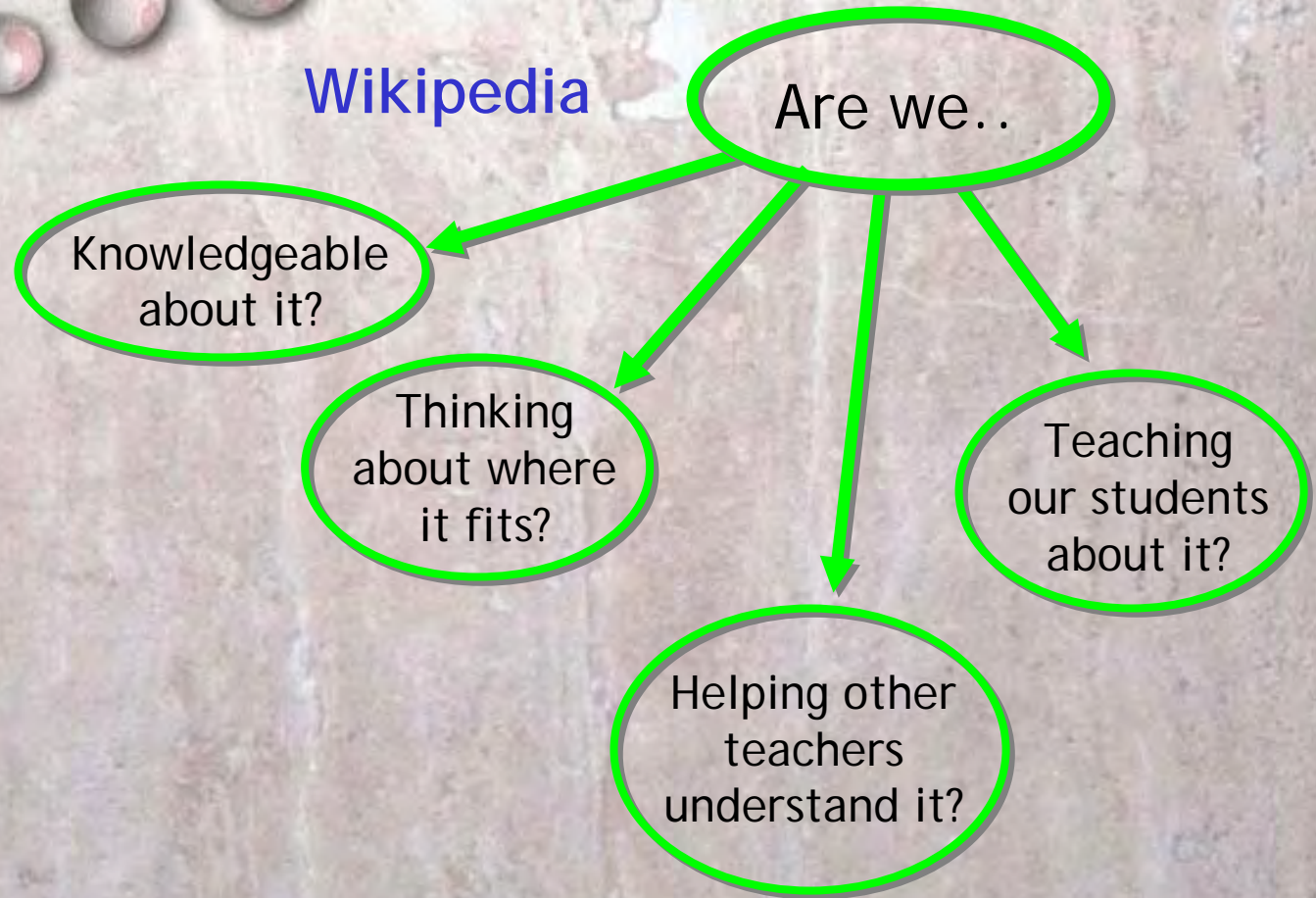
Any ideas?  
What will be  
the challenges?

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.





Wikipedia



Are we ready to become  
*Teacher-Librarian 2.0*?

