

# Wikipedia Editing



When students are asked to edit Wikipedia articles, they become knowledge contributors rather than knowledge consumers. “[This] can encourage students to analyze what they read, ask questions, and engage in reflective, creative learning.”<sup>1</sup>

## PURPOSE

- » Learn to write neutral, expository text.
- » Experience writing in a peer-reviewed setting.
- » Hone information and technology literacy skills.
- » Practice research skills: Wikipedia articles are evaluated by references to reliable sources.

## PROCEDURE

- » **Identify** content that needs contributors.
- » **Practice and peer review.** A private test wiki can help build confidence by providing a peer support group to review contributions before publishing to Wikipedia. If this is not possible, Wikipedia User pages work well as a sandbox.
- » **Publish.**

## CONSIDERATIONS

- » Student changes to public pages may be quickly removed or edited by existing page editors.
- » Students are working in a public forum, not a private site.



INTERMEDIATE

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1. “7 Things You Should Know About Wikipedia | EDUCAUSE.edu.” Accessed June 25, 2014. <http://www.educause.edu/library/resources/7-things-you-should-know-about-wikipedia>.

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