

Wikis and Blogs

December, 2007

Wikis

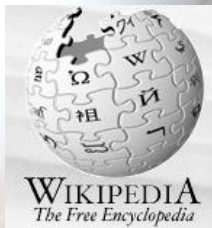
- What is a wiki?

A web site that allows users to edit the content collectively

- “Wiki wiki” means “rapidly” in the Hawaiian language

The Most (Im)Famous Wiki...

- “The free encyclopedia anybody can edit.”
- Written collaboratively by volunteers
- Almost all visitors may edit Wikipedia's content; registered users can also create new articles.
- Controversy over Wikipedia's reliability and accuracy



Wikipedia vs. Britannica

- The journal Nature found:

2.92 mistakes per article for Britannica

3.86 mistakes per article for Wikipedia

Three Levels of Wikis

- Level 1—Everyone can view and edit
- Level 2—Everyone can view and only a few can edit
- Level 3—Limited viewing and editing

What Can I Do with a Wiki?

- **One idea**—Let your students collaborate: They can use a wiki to do groupwork or each create their own personal web page.
- **Another idea**—Set up a department page...co-create agendas, keep a list of important hyperlinks, take turns keeping notes during meetings.

Samples

- <http://pastronewiki.wikispaces.com/>
Becky Pastrone's wiki for her classes
- <https://mediaprojects.wikispaces.com>
Sr. Meg Causey's wiki for her MSG religion course
- <http://grandclassroom07.wetpaint.com/?t=anon>
Dino Vandenheede's wiki for Project Term '07

A Free Wiki Host

- Dino's current favorite...



wikispaces

- Educator friendly
- In lab situation, remember to have students log off if they are editing
- Others:
 - WetPaint, PBWiki

Blogs

Morphed Word

weB log → Blog

A Blog is...

- a blog is basically a journal that is available on the web
- the activity of updating a blog is "blogging" and someone who keeps a blog is a "blogger"

Why Blog?

- Communicate with parents
- Communicate with your peers
- Showcase student work

http://www.ets.org/teachers/learningnow/2006/05/what_exactly_is_a_blog_anyway.html

EduBlogs

- [Kathy Schrock's Educational Technology Blog Listing](#)
- [Google Directory of Education Weblogs](#)
- [Education Week](#)

Why Blog with Students?

- Worldwide Audience
- Authentic Audience
- Engagement & Motivation
- Demonstrate How to Use
- The Comments Function
- Ethics, Netiquette & Digital Citizenship
- Child Protection & Internet Safety
- Copyright and Academic Property
- Cooperation & Collaboration
- Writing Processes
- Creative Process
- Blogging is Really Easy
- Spelling
- Typing

<http://www.education.com/technology/why-blog-with-students.html>

Create a Blog

- [EduBlogger](#)
- [Blogger](#)
- [WordPress](#)

Resources

- [Education World Technology Article](#)
- [Blogging Webquest](#)
- TeacherTube – [Why Let our Students Blog?](#)

“Ask yourself, ‘So what?’ before you start blogging.

Will your blog add to the world of knowledge and learning, or is it just for fun?”

http://thejournal.com/articles/17916_1