Wikipedia and Libraries: what’s in it for you?
(and what is OCLC doing about it?)

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Wikipedia: Your mileage may vary

WHAT DO YOU MEAN
WIKIPEDIA ISN'T A RELIABLE SOURCE?

ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY
CITE WIKIPEDIA
Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment.

- Wikimedia Foundation vision
But doctors are aware of this, and an effort called Wikiproject Medicine is dedicated to improving the quality of medical information on Wikipedia.
GWR: Google -> Wikipedia -> References
Library

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For other uses, see Library (disambiguation).

A library is a collection of sources of information and similar resources, made accessible to a defined community for reference or borrowing.[1] It provides physical or digital access to material, and may be a physical building or room, or a virtual space, or both.[2] A library's collection can include books, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, films, maps, prints, documents, microform, CDs, cassettes, videotapes, DVDs, Blu-ray Discs,
Reliable sources needed

Reliable sources [edit]

"WP:SOURCE" redirects here. For the <source> tag, see Wikipedia:Syntaxhighlight. For how to reference sources, see Help:Referencing for beginners.

What counts as a reliable source [edit]

Further information: Wikipedia:Identifying reliable sources

The word "source" in Wikipedia has three meanings:

- The type of the work (some examples include a document, an article, or a book)
- The creator of the work (for example, the writer)
- The publisher of the work (for example, Oxford University Press)

All three can affect reliability.

Base articles on reliable, third-party, published sources with a reputation for fact-checking and accuracy. Source material must have been published; the definitive Unpublished materials are not considered reliable. Use sources that directly support the material presented in an article and are appropriate to the claims made.

If available, academic and peer-reviewed publications are usually the most reliable sources, such as in history, medicine, and science.

For a more detailed guide, see: Wikipedia:Guidelines for reliable sources.
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Alexa.com rankings (as of 6 March)

British Library 15.069 global; 1,636 UK
Library of Congress: 4,050 global; 868 US
Wikipedia: 6 global; 6 US
Knight News Challenge

How might libraries serve 21st century information needs?

Improve access to knowledge and empower citizens: Amplify libraries and communities through Wikipedia

Library staff will learn to contribute to Wikipedia, engage their community members, and better leverage collections.

Our project

1. Build awareness – wherefore Wikipedia?
2. Online training program for 500 US public library staff
3. Guidance from a Wikipedian in Residence
4. Learning applied in libraries; community programs
5. Case studies and resources published

December 2016 – May 2018
Public libraries + Wikipedia

(Photo: CC BY-SA 4.0/Michael Mandiberg)
Project Partners

OCLC

WebJunction®

Knight Foundation

Wikimedia

The Wikipedia Library

WMDC
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oc.lc/oclc-wikilib
#oclcwikilib

Because what is known must be shared.