# Learner Guide **** Section 5

Wikipedia + Programming

*This is the fifth section of the course Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together, lasting 3 weeks.*

In this section, we will continue to explore ways to engage more deeply with Wikipedia, including organizing an edit-a-thon. Use this Learner Guide to support your development of a plan of action for your library.

Topics for the week include:

* Wikipedia editing: article creation and selected tips
* Review of Wikipedia engagement models
* Building an action plan for Wikipedia engagement for your library
* Guest presenters share their experiences with Wikipedia events

### Pre-work (before the next live session):

To get a taste of Wikipedia edit-a-thons in action, watch three short videos describing different edit-a-thon events.

* [AfroCROWD](https://vimeo.com/155972398) (1:06 min)

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, working with the AfroCROWD initiative for the Black

WikiHistory Month outreach campaign.

* [Art+Feminism](https://youtu.be/X7PF5zUTaGo) (5:48 min)

The second annual Art+Feminism Wikipedia edit-a-thon at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, March 7, 2015.

* New York Botanical Garden / [Plants and People](https://youtu.be/SY_WGKdapOw) (2:38 min)

A January 2017 Wikipedia edit-a-thon on women in science held at the New York Botanical Garden.

# Live Session FIVE

* [Date and Time]

Use this guide as a companion to the live session and follow-up assignments to scaffold learning.

Deeper into the Wikipedia rabbit hole ...

## Five new article *“*musts*”*

* 1. 3-5 references (WP:V)
  2. Establish notability in lead (WP:GNG)
  3. ~250 words w/ citations (WP:NPOV, WP:NOR)
  4. Add at least one category
  5. Add in- and out- wikilinks (WP:ORPHAN)

Suggestions for new article

“Be bold—remember we are a community that helps each other build on each other’s knowledge.”

—[User:RachelWex](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:RachelWex)

creation process:

### Create the new article from a redlink

* Draft article in user space

(wiki/User:*YourUsername*/

*Article\_title*)

* Have editing experience (min. 7 days, ~15 edits) under your

username

* Do not use the AfC or “submit your

article for review” process, they are backlogged & cumbersome; be

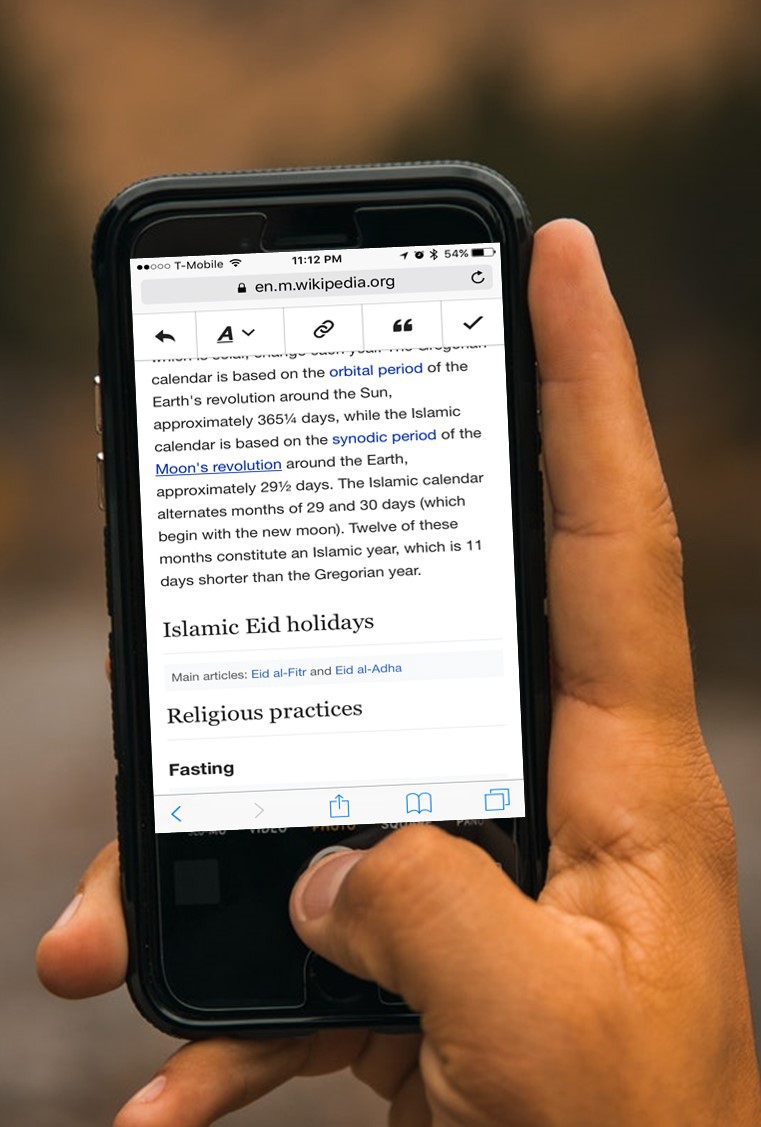
bold, trust yourself!

Creating

a new article could sound daunting, but with your reference skills and our tips, you*’*re set!

Mobile Wikipedia

There’s the app reader, a mobile editor and games



New page patrols

Most, if not all, new article pages are patrolled by community members to prevent vandalism, hoaxes, copyright violations or defamatory material. However, patrolling can have an

unintentional consequence for an encyclopedia that “anyone can edit”—in the form of raised barriers to entry.

Consider the benefits and drawbacks of new article patrols in the effort to expand access to a world of information.

Commitment to Engage with Wikipedia

Section Four of the course introduced you to five forms of engagement with Wikipedia and the variety of ways to express that engagement within each form. In the final three weeks of the course, you will formulate an engagement commitment for taking your Wikipedia learning to the next level.

### Engagement Template

Whether you plan to move forward with individual engagement or with some variety of group engagement (patron class, staff training, edit-a-thon, etc.), it is beneficial to articulate the fundamentalswhy, who, what, etc. The Steps to Engagement document will walk you through nine steps to frame your intention and move it toward action.

 *What is your goal for the engagement*? Being clear about why you are doing it and where it will get you is foundational.

 *Who is the audience; who will benefit*? Identifying the audience is most important for planning any kind of group engagement. Connecting with a target audience means tailoring the content, delivery and supports to that audience’s learning needs and styles.

 *How will you know if your engagement was a success*? Whether working as an individual or with a group, you may be aiming for quantitative indicatorsnumber of citations added, number of copy edits, number of images uploaded, etc. You may also want to define qualitative goalsthe feeling of accomplishment,

the aha! of understanding Wikipedia’s structure, etc.

 *How will you get institutional buy-in and support for the engagement*? First identify who you need to

persuade to allot time and resources to a Wikipedia engagement. Then formulate your talking points that will be particularly convincing. Articulating alignment with the library’s strategic plan is always a good

starting point.

 *Who are potential partners or collaborators*? If you’re planning a class or event, look for collaborators,

including other institutions or local Wikipedians. For individual engagement, finding a learning buddy can increase your motivation to start and keep going.

 *How will the engagement work*? Lay out the basic framing here —how long, how often, what format. For more complex engagements, use the Wikipedia Event Action Plan to fill in the details.

 *What resources will you need*? Time is a resource, so even if you are working individually, you may want to schedule specific times during which you advance your Wikipedia engagement goal.

 *Where can you get those resources*? This may involve approaching partners for resource support, recruiting volunteers, or applying for grant funding.

 *What else do you need to keep in mind to make this a fruitful engagement*? Every situation is unique. You may add to this step as you move through your engagement and encounter elements you hadn’t thought to consider.

Action Planning for Wikipedia Events

If you are intending to do a Wikipedia engagement with a group, there are a number of components to set in motion in order to execute a successful event. The Wikipedia Event Action Plan [w](http://learn.webjunction.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=2158)ill help you think through the many moving parts that need to happen before, during and after the event.

The Action Plan is segmented into the components of things to consider:

* + *Before the event: Content and Structure* – develop the content for the class or editing event;

determine the structure for delivering the content

* + *Before the event: Location and Timing*– determine the location and timing of the event suitable to your chosen format, the intended audience and the number of expected attendees
  + *Before the event: Communications* – formulate messaging at all levels, including securing buy-in from administrators and learners and identifying the best channels for communicating the messages
  + *Before the event: Materials and Technology Logistics* – as the event approaches, prepare learner materials and technology setup, including *technical setup specifics for new editors* as a group
  + *During the event: Learning Environment* –set up the environment for a welcoming atmosphere,

physical comfort and good tech support

* + *Evaluation* – determine and deploy assessment and tracking tools to help gauge the effectiveness of the event

Watch the [Edit-a-thon online training series](https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/training/editathons) (three modules) to get a solid overview of all the factors that combine to deliver a successful editing event.

Many of the suggestions are also applicable to staff training or patron information literacy classes.

These specific topics in the tutorials may be of particular interest: Module 1: Defining your event

* + [Working with underrepresented groups](https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/training/editathons/defining-your-event/working-with-underrepresented-groups)
  + [Types of conflict of interest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Plain_and_simple_conflict_of_interest_guide#Conflict_of_interest)

Module 2: Planning well before the Edit-a-thon

* + [Topics to avoid](https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/training/editathons/planning-well-before-the-event/topics-to-avoid) (due to high conflict or high activity)
  + [Identifying existing articles for expansion](https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/training/editathons/planning-well-before-the-event/identifying-existing-articles-for-expansion)

Module 3: Planning leading up to the event

* + [Common technical challenges](https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/training/editathons/planning-leading-up-to-the-event/common-technical-challenges)

*See additional Wikipedia Event Planning Resources in Section 5 of the course*.

## Assignments

### You have three weeks to complete these assignments. Engagement and Action Planning

1. Commit to taking action on at least one way to engage with one of the five forms of engagement with Wikipedia.
2. Begin to define your plan using the Steps to Engagement document.
3. Return to the discussion forums to continue the conversations with your peers and bounce your ideas around with your cohort. Take advantage of your peer community to share your ideas and resources for engagement and to help you think through the challenges.

*Note that completing and submitting the Steps to Engagement is the only assignment required for completion. The Wikipedia Event Action Plan is for you to use on your own as applicable.*

Call for volunteers!

We want to hear from YOU about your plans to continue to engage with Wikipedia beyond the conclusion of this course. You are the greatest source of inspiration and motivation for each other.

* Let us know if you are interested and willing to share with your peers; email name@address.org by [Date and Time].
* We will provide a simple slide template for you to fill in, and technical run-through if needed.

### Final section: Your Wikipedia journey continues

The next, and final, live session will be [Date and Time].

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