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**Activity**

Wikipedia Controversies

MODULE 3: Researching and Using the Web

This **activity** was written for the Florida Public School System DIGITAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (8207310) course. Funded by the Cyber/IT Pathways Program, Cyber Florida, and the Florida Department of Education.

# Module 2: Researching and Using the Web

## Activity: Wikipedia Controversies

The student reads an article published by Wikipedia about controversies of information posted on their website to understand how the reliability of online resources varies.

The student summarizes one of the controversies in the article.

## Standards Assessed

* **01.04** Utilize the Internet to find reliable resources and reference materials (e.g., online help, tutorials, manuals).
* **01.05** Apply research strategies to use and evaluate electronic research technologies for valid and reliable information.
* **01.08** Describe ethical issues and problems associated with computers and information technology (e.g., fair use, privacy, public domain, copyright, piracy, plagiarism).
* **11.05** Demonstrate proficiency using search engines and search tools (e.g., Boolean search strategies).

## Teacher Notes

Students will read the following article from Wikipedia.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Wikipedia_controversies>

The student selects one controversy of interest from the article. Then, the student should write a summary explaining why it was a controversy and what they think the impact would have been when the controversial information was posted and available for the world to see. In other words, what would be the impact if someone was researching information on the Internet and reviewed the controversial article within Wikipedia.

## Estimated Student Completion Time

* 60 minutes to complete the activity

## Activity Rubric

Consider evaluating the student’s work based on measures of quality. For example, with a maximum of 4 Points Possible, the following could be applied to the activity:

* **1 Point Earned** = ***Needs Improvement*** (the student work did not meet more than 50% of the requirements and did not follow instructions)
* **2 Points Earned** = ***Developing*** (the student met between 50% and 75% of the requirements and generally followed the instructions)
* **3 Points Earned** = ***Sufficient*** (the student met between 75% and 90% of the requirements and clearly followed instructions)
* **4 Points Earned** = ***Above Average*** (the student met > 90% of the requirements and followed all instructions)

# Activity: Wikipedia Controversies

**Student Instructions**: Review a Wikipedia controversy and write a summary.

1. Read the following article from Wikipedia.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Wikipedia_controversies>

1. Select one controversy of interest from the article. Then, write a summary explaining why it was a controversy and what you think the impact would have been when the controversial information was posted and available for the world to see. In other words, what would be the impact if someone was researching information on the Internet and reviewed the controversial article within Wikipedia.

Summary must include:

* Main idea sentence
* 2-3 details
* Closing sentence