

Working With Wikis: Lesson Plan

1. Ways to use wikis in education 10 minutes

View slideshow: 18 interesting ways to use a wiki in the classroom.

[50 Ways to Use Wikis](#)

My class has a wiki to access websites:

[Read the Web](#)

You can also use a wiki to carry on a class discussion.

For the past 3 years my class has participated with other classes from across the country on a Thanksgiving Project:

<http://thanksgiving-2011.wikispaces.com/>

A wiki can serve as your class website, like my friend Barb Gilman's 3rd grade class. She adds pages throughout the year as her class completes project.

<http://113-smm.wikispaces.com/>

My class has been using this wiki for a WebQuest. I am building it as we go along:

[Explore Earth](#)

I originally completed this wiki to display student work.

My family has a wiki to collect family recipes.

[Grand Cooks](#)

2. Planning Your Wiki

Before we get started creating a wiki, let's do some planning. What will you want to use this wiki for? What would you like to call it. Fill in the worksheet before we continue.

(Allow 10 minutes for work).

3. **Creating Up Your Wiki**

The Technology 4 Phillips Teachers wiki is on PB Works, but I find Wikispaces easier to use, so that is what we are going to use today. Wikispaces has tutorial videos that can be very helpful. (10-15 min)

<http://www.wikispaces.com/content/wiki-tour>

Guide them step by step through set-up. Model by setting up FourthGradeRocks to collect resources.

User Name _____

Password _____

E-mail Address _____

Wiki Name _____ (This is important because it will become part of your web address.)

Decide on settings:

_____Public (any one can see it or edit it. This is good if you are okay with strangers changing your content. Probably no.

_____Protected (This is what I use. Anyone can see it, but only members can edit it.

_____Private (only members can see it or edit it)

Check: Certify this wiki will be used for K-12 education. That way you will not have advertising on your wiki.

4. **Layout and Design** (20 minutes)

How do you want your wiki to look? Once the wiki is set up, guide them through choosing a layout. Ask them to take a few minutes to explore the management tools.

5. **Learn how to edit a page.** (10 minutes)

Take them step by step through writing on the page and saving it.

6. **Add a page.** Practice adding pages to your wiki. (10 minutes)

Once they have set up a page or two.

7. **Learn how to add elements.** (20 minutes)

- Links
- photos
- videos
- word clouds

8. **Learn how to remove elements and delete pages.** (10 minutes)

9. **Continue building your wiki (60 minutes or more)**