

Wikipedia Campus Training: Wikipedia Literacy

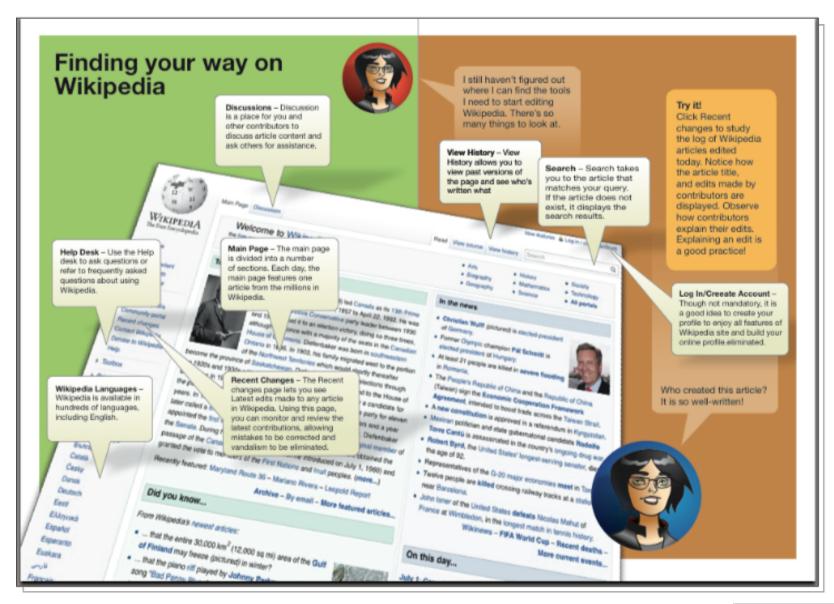
Objectives

At the end of this training you will:

- Be able to navigate the user interface
- Know the anatomy of an article
- Understand watchlists and discussion norms
- Know how to review articles
- Understand disagreements, arguments, and edit wars
- Understand what a WikiProject is



User Interface





User Interface (cont.)

http://en.wikipedia.org



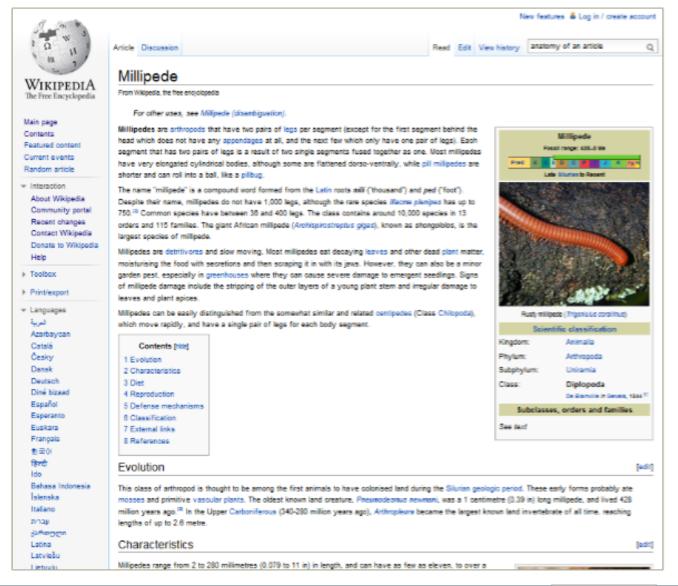
Anatomy of an Article





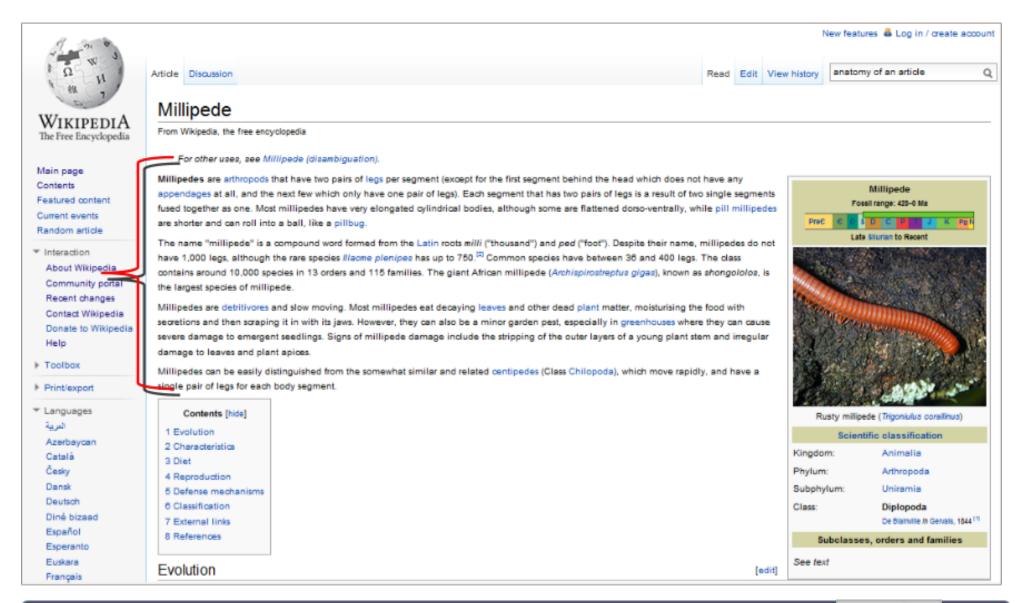
Anatomy of an Article

Lead
Sections
Notes/
References
External Links
Images





Anatomy of an Article – Lead





Anatomy of an Article – Sections

(edit)

De Blainville /n Gervals, 1544 17

Subclasses, orders and families

This class of arthropod is thought to be among the first animals to have colonised land during the Silurian geologic period. These early forms probably ate mosses and primitive vascular plants. The oldest known land creature, *Pneumodesmus newmani*, was a 1 centimetre (0.39 in) long millipede, and lived 428 million years ago. (20 In the Upper Carboniferous (340-280 million years ago), *Arthropieurs* became the largest known land invertebrate of all time, reaching lengths of up to 2.6 metre.

See text

Characteristics

[edit]

Millipedes range from 2 to 280 millimetres (0.079 to 11 in) in length, and can have as few as eleven, to over a hundred segments. They are generally black or brown in colour, although there are few brightly coloured species.

The millipede's most obvious feature is its large number of legs. Having very many short legs makes millipedes rather slow, but they are powerful burrowers. With their legs and body length moving in a wavelike pattern, they easily force their way underground head first. They also seem to have some engineering ability, reinforcing the tunnel by rearranging the particles around it. Their bodies have segmented sections which makes them move in a wave-like form.

The head of a millipede is typically rounded above and flattened below and bears large mandibles. The body is flattened or cylindrical, with a single chitinous plate above, one at each side, and two or three on the underside. In many millipedes, these plates are fused to varying degrees, sometimes forming a single cylindrical ring. The plates are typically hard, being impregnated with calcium salts. [4]

Unlike centipedes and other similar animals, each segment bears two pairs of legs, rather than just one. This is because each is actually formed by the fusion of two embryonic segments, and is therefore properly referred to as a "diplosegment," or double segment. The first few segments behind the head are not fused in this fashion, and the first segment is legless, called a collum segment while the second to fourth have one pair each. In some millipedes, the last few segments may also be legless. The final segment bears a telson. [4]



The North American millipede — head with eyes

Millipedes breathe through two pairs of spiracles on each diplosegment. Each opens into an internal pouch, and connects to a system of trachese. The heart runs the entire length of the body, with an aorta stretching into the head. The excretory organs are two pairs of malpighian tubules, located near the mid-part of the gut. [4]

The head contains a pair of sensory organs known as the Tömösváry organs. These are found just posterior and lateral to the antennae, and are shaped as small and oval rings at the base of the antennae. They are probably used to measure the humidity in the surroundings, and they may have some chemoreceptory abilities too. Millipede eyes consist of a number of simple flat lensed ocelli arranged in a group on the front/side of the head. Many species of millipedes, such as cave-dwelling millipedes, have secondarily lost their eyes.

According to Guinness World Records the African giant black millipede Archispirostreptus gigas can grow to 38.6 centimetres (15.2 in). [5]

-Diet

[edit]

Most millipedes are herbivorous, and feed on decomposing vegetation or organic matter mixed with soil. A few species are omnivorous or carnivorous, and may prey on small arthropods, such as insects and centipedes, or on earthworms. Some species have piercing mouthparts that allow them to feed on plant juices.

The digestive tract is a simple tube with two pairs of salivary glands to help digest the food. Many millipedes moisten their food with saliva before eating it [4]

Reproduction

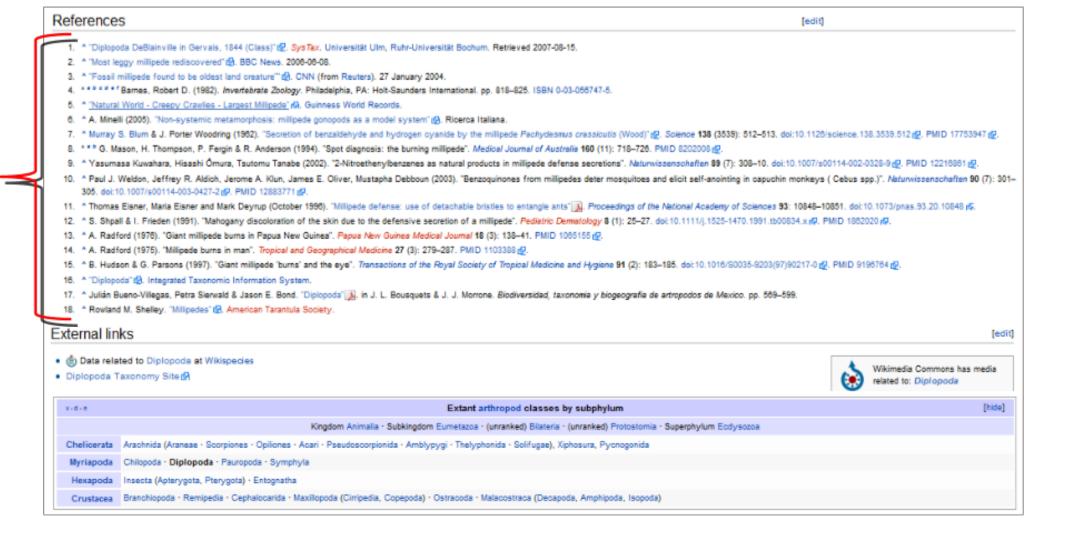
[edit]

Male millipedes can be differentiated from female millipedes by the presence of one or two pairs of legs modified into gonopods. These modified legs, which are usually on the seventh segment, are used to transfer sperm packets to the female during copulation. [8] A few species are parthenogenetic, having few, if any, males.



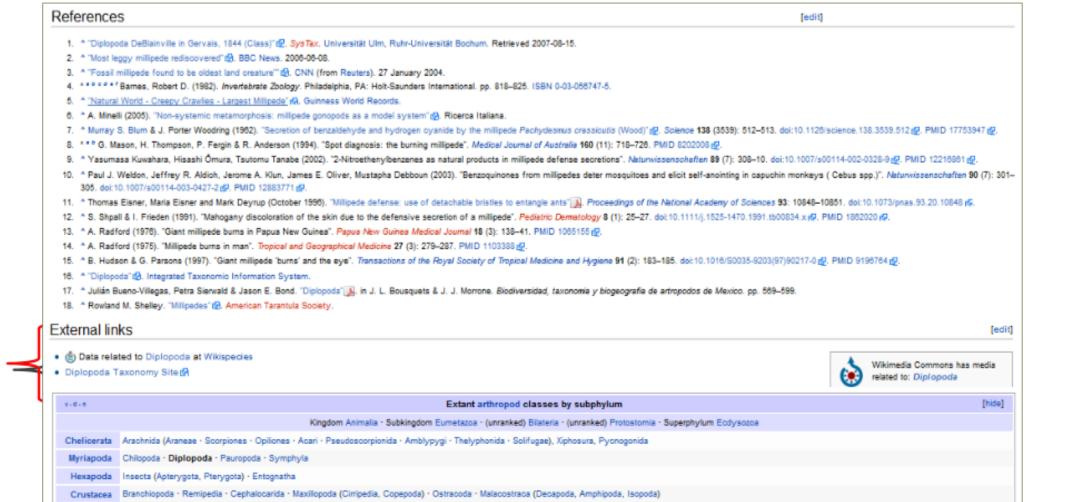


Anatomy of an Article – Notes and References



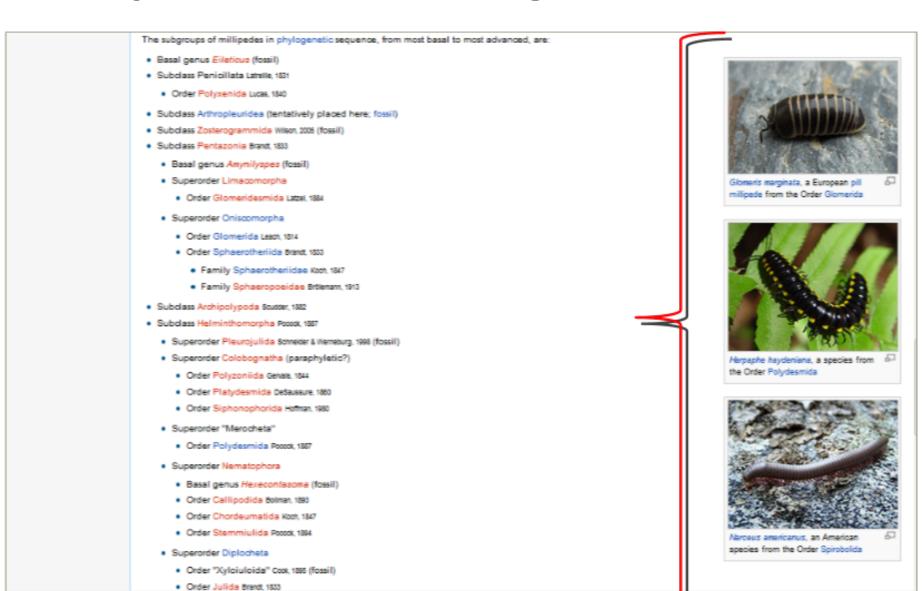


Anatomy of an Article – External Links



WIKIMEDIA

Anatomy of an Article – Images





Wikipedia: Manual of Style

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual_of_Style

- Yes, Wikipedia has a manual of style (a very detailed one). But don't be afraid to make an edit without consulting the Manual of Style!
- Consult articles on similar topics to find how to do specific formatting or style
- It's okay to copy and paste formatting



Watchlists and discussion norms

- Allows you to easily see if any changes have been made to pages you care about
- <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:Watchlist</u>



Article Selection: What to Do

- Choose a topic that is well established in the discipline, but only weakly represented on Wikipedia. The best choice is a topic where a lot of literature is available, but isn't covered extensively on Wikipedia.
- Gravitate toward "stub" and "start" class articles. These articles have only 1-2 paragraphs of information and are in need of expansion.
- Before creating a new article, spend 15-20 minutes searching related topics on Wikipedia to make sure your topic isn't already covered. Often, an article may already exist under another name or as a subsection of a broader article.



Article Selection: What to Avoid

- Trying to improve articles on very broad topics (e.g. Law)
- Trying to improve articles on topics that are highly controversial, e.g. Global Warming, Abortion, Scientology, etc. (Note: start a sub-article instead)
- Working on articles that are already of high quality on Wikipedia
- Working on something only sparsely covered by literature
- Starting articles with titles that imply an essay-like approach, e.g. The Effects That The Recent Sub-Prime Mortgage Crisis has had on the US and Global Economics instead of Subprime mortgage crisis



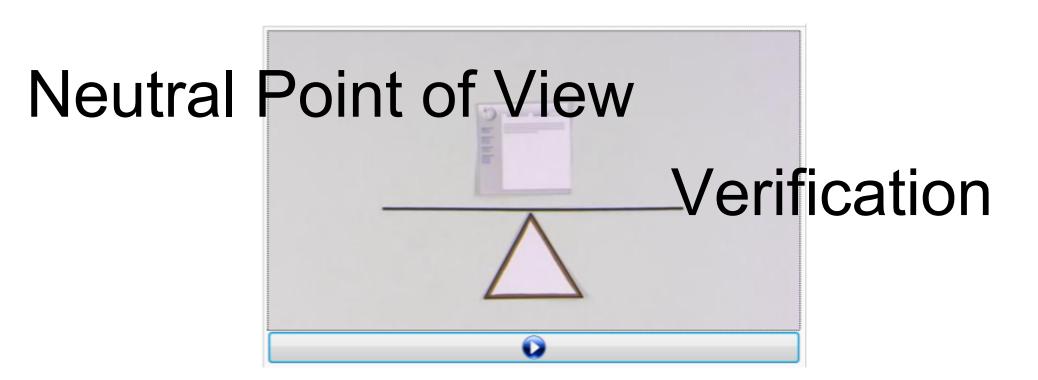
Article Selection

What makes a good article?

- Structure
 - Lead section
 - Body
 - Appendices and footnotes
- Content
- Comprehensiveness—Does the article cover significant aspects of the topic?
- Sourcing—Are the sources of high quality relative to what is available?
- Neutrality—Is the article written from a neutral point of view?
- Readability—Is the article readable and well written?
- Formatting—Does the article adhere to the Wikipedia Manual of Style?
- Illustrations—Is the article adequately illustrated?
 - Community
 - Discussion page offers forum for agreeing on structure and content



Let's talk...



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fa0Nmv9qsd8



Creating New Articles

- Get off to a good start with:
 - Summary of the topic
 - Reason why the topic is notable
 - Reference to a credible source about the topic
- Create your own workspace or 'sandbox' (instructions on this later)
- Find another Wikipedia editor to help contribute



Life of an Article

- Begins as "stub"
 - Summary of the topic
 - Statement telling why the topic is important
 - Source outside Wikipedia confirming the existence and importance of the topic (a credible publication or website).
 - At this point, start writing on Wikipedia.
- Matures to a more detailed article that captures various perspectives
 - Historical (for example, "in 1923, new factors...")
 - Global (for example, "in Europe, this was viewed as...")
- Reaches a level where it is well-written, sourced and comprehensive



Life of an Article: Example

- Begins as "stub"
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Food_Quality_Protection_Act&oldid=385275448
- Matures to a more detailed article that captures various perspectives
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Food_Quality_Protection_Act&oldid=391937184
- Reaches a level where it is well-written, sourced and comprehensive
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food_Quality_Protection_Act



Disagreements, Arguments, and Edit Wars

- The Wikipedia community is critical to the success of the project
 - Editing articles
 - Ensuring consistency and accuracy
- Assume Good Faith = core principle
- But disagreements and arguments do arise
- Edit War: 2 editors reverting each others' edits
- When some reverts you, discuss it on the talk page
- If that doesn't work, talk with your course's Online
 Ambassador for advice on resolving the disagreement



What are WikiProjects?

- A WikiProject is a group of editors with a common interest, usually a specific subject area.
- WikiProjects identify relevant articles by add "WikiProject banners" to article talk pages.
- WikiProjects vary widely in how active and effective they are. Some active projects can offer help, advice and support for classes working in their area. For inactive projects, the list of members can be useful for finding editors who might want to help individually.
- Find related WikiProjects for your topic and reach out to them! Online Ambassadors can help you with this.





Thank you!

