

What is a Wiki

Wikis are very simple Web sites which allow for the easy creation and editing of interlinked Web pages. Most often Wikis are used to create collaborative Web sites, to power community Web sites, and for resource gathering.

Wikipedia.org, a collaborative encyclopedia, is the best known Wiki and has gained a dubious reputation as a reference work. But there are many other uses for Wikis, especially in education.

Using PBworks with students

Wikis provide educators with a presence on the Web that is easy both to create and update. They can be used for resource pages, interactive syllabi, or as the basis for a WebQuest or other on-line project.

With PB Works it is also possible to have students contribute to a Wiki that is not opened to the public, so their personal information and work is secure.

Next Steps

Wikis have caught on in corporate circles as a quick and easy way for employees to share information and collaborate on projects. Following their example, several schools, and even some districts, have begun using private Wikis as a space for educators to share and build on each others ideas. PB Works even has special account packages specifically for schools and educators.

Further info

PB Works User Manual:

<http://usermanual.pbworks.com/FrontPage>

CommonCraft's video demo of Wikis:

<http://www.commoncraft.com/video-wikis-plain-english>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnL00TdmLY>

Blogs, wikis, podcasts, and other power Web tools for classrooms by Will Richardson (Corwin Press, 2006)

Collaborative Web Spaces for the library and classroom

PBWORKS

using PBworks.org

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Creating an account

- go to <https://plans.pbworks.com/>
- click on the Create an academic workspace link

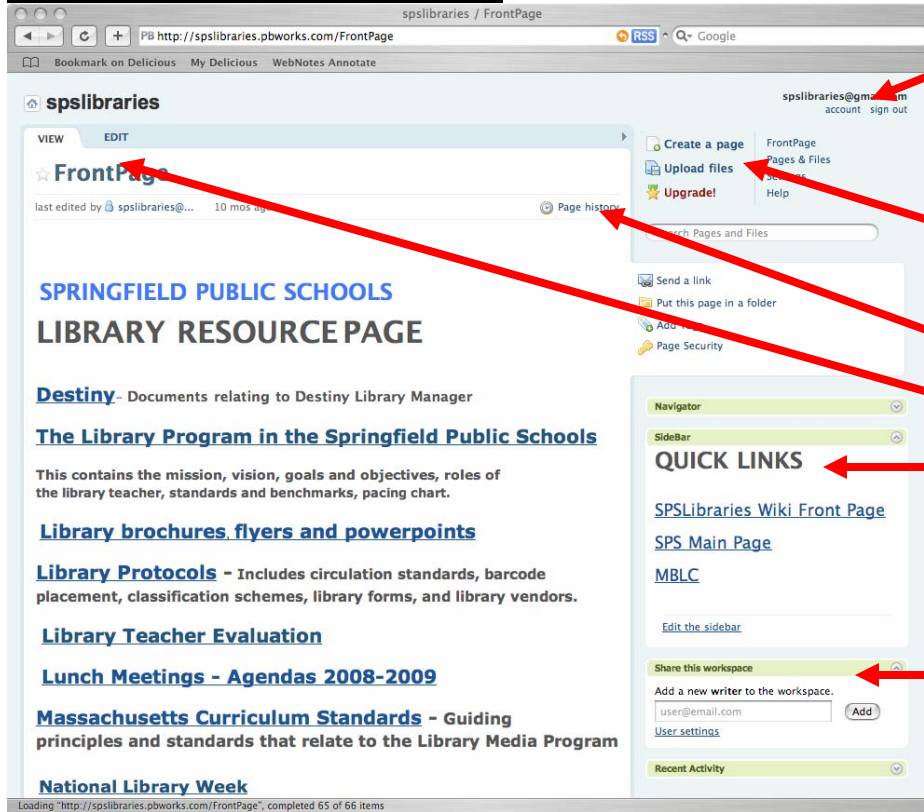
Sign Up

CHOOSE A PLAN SET UP DONE

the three academic plans will be displayed, select the free **Basic** plan to begin

- Choose your address and enter your account information
- when your info is submitted a confirmation will be sent to the e-mail address you provided
- click the link in the e-mail to be brought back to PB Works
- from the link PB Works will reload on a page that allows you to choose your security settings, when done click the link to continue to your workspace
- the FrontPage of your Wiki will load and you can begin editing and creating new pages

The FrontPage



- Your account info and Sign out
- Quick links to Create a page and Upload files
- Page history link
- View and Edit
- Editable Sidebar for links or other static content
- Share this workspace tool for adding users

Editing

View and Edit

WYSIWYG tools
(what you see is what you get)

Insert images and files, or links to New or existing pages

Sandbox or main body of the page

Save changes

