What is a wiki?

- A wiki is a grouping of web pages, or "children," designed to enable users with access to contribute or edit content.

- Wikis are commonly used to create collaborative projects and websites as well as the foundation for community websites such as blogs and *Wikipedia*.

- A wiki can be based on ANYTHING! Whatever the creator desires to base their site on is what the site will be. There are few regulations and therefore people must be careful when doing research. What seems like a legitimate website to access information from might just be a well designed wiki with false information. (Ex. *Boilerplate*- the Victorian Era's combat robot)

What's the history of wiki?

- Jimmy Wales, the founder of Wikipedia, co-founded Wikia with Angela Beesley in 2004.

- The name "wiki" was based on the Hawaiian translation meaning quick.

- Wikia uses a for-profit model with revenues from advertisements and is an independent company from Wikiapedia.

What can I do with a wiki?

- Wiki's allow users to create and develop "communities" about virtually any topic.

- It can be used in many different languages, which allows for people all over the world to participate in it.

- You can do almost ANYTHING! Put videos, audio, text, graphics, animations etc. in your personalized website.

- You can make your website as simple or as complex as you want it to be.

What are the benefits of a Wikia page?

- Wikia allows people with varying levels of computer knowledge to create and edit a website at their discretion. It's easy to use and easy to learn.

- Universities have currently started using Wikia as a way of expressing their opportunities, statistics, and areas of interest such as who they are looking to recruit, what they have to offer, perks, benefits, and more.

- It also has become a great tutoring source for several students. It allows a means to collaborate with others to work through problems and ask for help in a quick manner.

- You can actively engage those of who you wish to include on your Wikia in a quick and easy process, while saving paper, as well as saving their time to check and scan e-mails.

How can I use/make a wiki?

- Go to the Wikia website by typing www.wikia.com into your web browser.

- Creating an account on Wikia is free. Click the "create an account" link. Here you will create a username and password.

- Go to the home page for Wikia (www.wikia.com) and clicking on the red "create a wiki link".

- To edit your wiki or a previously existing wiki simply click the "Edit this page" link above any article, and type your changes in the text box. Before saving your work you need to preview your edit, and then scroll down to find the "save" button and click it to save.

As a teacher, how can I use Wikia in my classroom?

- Teachers are always looking for new technologies to incorporate in the classroom.

- We have lesson plans from elementary education all the way through post-secondary education as well as uses for teaching in the business/ industry world.

    -Who ever the speaker is at the time can reflect on their specific lesson plan they created or the lesson plans of a fellow group member in regards to a certain grade level.

Wikia as a resource for teachers:
- Make a classroom or school page
- Post newsletters
- Exhibit student work
- Network with other teachers
- Find and create lesson plans
- Learn teaching methods

- Provide distance learning

Wikia as a resource for Student:

- Search for information
- Display class work
- Create a student community
- Practice writing skills
- Learn how to use a Wiki
- Receive class information from any computer
    - We even have created our own website about wiki history as well as the educational value of wiki's. We have example lesson plans as well as lesson plans on creating lesson plans.

    - http://classroom.wikia.com

How do people in other countries use Wikia?

- Wikia is a great source for getting travel information and a great place to learn exciting things about other countries.

- An individual in any country that has access to Wikia can spend a little time browsing through the wikis and see what the citizens of a particular area find enjoyable.

- One would be able to build an itinerary just by visiting a few wikis on Wikia.