



How does free help me? Informative things like Wikipedia

All Libraries, Scholarly Communications

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We use it for everything – historical information, explaining movie endings, and biographies of our favorite celebrities. [Wikipedia](#) began in 2001, which is roughly the same time as a movement called Open Access, which we are celebrating this week.

Before Wikipedia, hard cover books with a collection of facts were printed. These encyclopedias were expensive and it was hard to keep the information current. Just as Wikipedia makes facts more easily available to everyone using the Internet, Open Access hopes to do the same thing. However, it usually focuses on academic research that was previously only available through paid journal subscriptions. And just like Wikipedia, the results aren't always perfect.

When you research your next assignment, think about how hard that would be without access to all the information at your fingertips through the [UCF Libraries' Databases](#). As an added bonus, your friendly neighborhood [librarian](#) is here to help you navigate. Visit the [Libraries' website](#) for more information.

Tomorrow we will highlight some everyday items as a result of sharing information.

For More Information:

To learn more about Open Access, visit <https://library.ucf.edu/about/departments/scholarly-communication/open-access/>