AN ALTERNATIVE TO LIBGUIDES

What we do at MLC

10 September 2016
This Presentation

You can find this presentation at:

http://ainsleybakitch.weebly.com/standard-7.html
LibGuides is a really popular web publishing tool for libraries.

- 444,190 Guides
- 115,523 Librarians
- 3,518 Institutions
- 57 countries

(LibGuides, n.d.)
WHY DON’T WE USE LIBGUIDES?

• Direction of the school
• Cost
• Default structure
• Public availability of database links
• School already provides a web platform
WHAT DO WE USE INSTEAD?

• WordPress – web-based

• For more information on setting up a WordPress site
  • Installing WordPress
  • Minimum requirements
WHY DO WE USE WORDPRESS?

• Provided by the school

FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

• Easy to create a page that suits your needs
• Allows the creation of templates
• No initial knowledge of coding
• Option to edit the code for more advanced customisation
FEATURES OF WORDPRESS
FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

Avia Layout Builder

Layout Elements  Content Elements  Media Elements

Text Block  Separator / Whitespace  Special Heading  Icon Box  Icon List  Icon  Headline Rotator  Button  Fullwidth Button  Content Slider

Notification  Tabs  Accordion  Promo Box  Contact Form  Blog Posts  Magazine  Portfolio Grid  Masonry  Team Member

Table  Progress Bars  Fullwidth Sub Menu  Post Slider  Testimonials  Catalogue  Animated Numbers  Animated Countdown  Mailchimp Signup  Widget Area  Social Share Buttons  Comments  Code Block
FEATURES OF WORDPRESS
HOW DO WE USE WORDPRESS?

• Library website
  • eResources
  • Reading pages
  • Operational information
• Teacher resources
• Pathfinders
PATHFINDERS

- Moved towards differentiating resources for year 7-10

- Differentiation
  - Content
    - Reading readiness
    - Learning profiles
  - Process
  - Product

- Also provide a range of resources e.g. print vs digital
  - Addresses the physical issues of reading on screen
  - Addresses ability to work anywhere at anytime
CONCERNS?
ACTION RESEARCH

• Conducted survey of students after using the first pathfinder

• 82 out of possible 121 responses

• What the survey found:

Did you use the pathfinder for this assignment?

81 out of 82 people answered this question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>59 / 73%</td>
<td>22 / 27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

81 out of 82 people answered this question
If you didn't use the pathfinder, why not?

75 out of 82 people answered this question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>I did use the pathfinder</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I didn't know it existed</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>I didn't need help with this assignment</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Was the layout of the pathfinder easy to use?

81 out of 82 people answered this question

1. Yes 59 / 73%
2. I didn't use the pathfinder 18 / 22%
3. No 4 / 5%
ACTION RESEARCH

Did you use the introductory information about the middle ages on the first page of the pathfinder?

82 out of 82 people answered this question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn't know it was there</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn't use the pathfinder</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACTION RESEARCH

Question: Are there any things you would like changed or included to make a pathfinder better?
• No, all good. It made my research and preparation easy and I would definitely use it again!
• It would help if there was the same amount of resources for each topic though I know that this would be difficult.
• Include more videos.
• I didn't use pathfinder because I didn't know it existed, but I'm going to try to use it next time because it sounds helpful.
• Some basic information about the person as a bio or something similar.
• Probably the layout because I didn't use it because I was confused and it wasn't easy to read.
REFERENCES

To contact me:

9383 0227

abakitch@mlc.wa.edu.au