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**GDSN 223** **Short Subjects**  
shortsubjects.info

**Project** Choose a topic on Wikipedia and design a small book about that topic.

**Purpose** The primary purpose of the book from the reader's standpoint is entertainment and information. The primary purpose from the designer's standpoint is to edit and organize information and to work with an already established grid and style system. You will make use of the grid as an organizational and editorial tool in a multi page document.

**Choosing a Topic** Try to choose a topic that interests you. Do not limit yourselves to the obvious and do not trust your classmates for too much guidance. The more variety we achieve as a group the more successful the project will be. You might choose to talk about the biology involved in how a giraffe is able to drink water, or a brief history of the hammer, Spinoza, or fermentation. Content is not specified, form however is.

**Form** Your final form must adhere to the template guidelines. Each of you will have different content, and editorial considerations. You each must make decisions about how to use the established hierarchy and system to best enhance your content. *You must use the style sheets provided in the template.* You may not use photographs yet you may use vector illustrations, but they need to be clean and readable. This does not mean that they cannot be funny; funny is a kind of information. They need not be "really special" or expressive, but they must be professional. The goal is cohesiveness as established by the simple grid and template.

Your book must have enough content to fill at least 8 pages. You are not *generating* the content; your content must be from Wikipedia. You are however the *editor* of the content. That means that you can change the way the viewer interprets the document, be inventive.

**Production** Your book must be laid out with the name of your subject on the cover according to the template, and again on the inside first page with your name below it, then on page 3 you should cite the name of the project, credit Wikipedia, put the creative commons link as well. We will also produce a digital edition of this publication, outputting our print files as flash documents from InDesign. The projects will be hosted at <http://shortsubjects.info>

**Evaluation** You will be judged on your ability to structure the information in a clean, aesthetically and conceptually sound way. Your book should meet the viewer's expectations with added surprises.

**Final Product** In the end you will have a typographically simple, conceptually interesting, and informative little booklet on a short subject. And with luck you can trade and collect them all.