

# Tim Berners Lee and the World Wide Web

Author: Peter Rohrbach

7th Grade Website

For my entry into the National History Day project, I chose my topic: Tim Berners Lee and the World Wide Web. The term 'World Wide Web' also sounded familiar and as I investigated the topic it seemed to have plenty of credible sources, so so far the topic was a top pick. Plus I have always wondered about the we and what the URL was for, where the web came from, etc. As I investigated a little more and as I got more background info, it sounded interesting to me, with a bunch of complicated computer stuff. I did not do much broadening or narrowing down because I found the title of my project in a history day idea packet, and as I researched I found there was no reason to change it.

I conducted my research using easybib, taking notes and automatically putting sources into my bibliography. I went to my school's libraries for books, and googled my topic for websites (then checked easybib to see if it was credible). The sources I found most useful were the ones over the web, there seemed to be many websites on the history of the World Wide Web, its creator. The websites provided good solid info, were not opinionated (for the most part) and were easy to cite using easybib (simple copy/paste URL). Some problems I encountered getting sources were finding ones that were not online, and ones about what happened after Tim Berners Lee created the web. One major thing that changed my understanding of this topic is that the internet is not the web, nor the web the internet, but rather father (internet) and son (web)..

The reason I chose to do a website because it seemed to fit the topic, the World Wide Web website, it seemed symbolic enough to do it for that reason. A website about how websites came around. I also used a website to create a free website with Weebly, which was simple. Plus if I wanted to I could put in a little custom HTML. (I'm not what you call a computer genius, I know how to put in pictures, change fonts, simple things. When it comes to creating an entire custom layout through manual HTML, no thanks). The most frustrating thing I had to do during my ENTIRE history day experience, is when I had to comply with the word limit. Some people call me a "perfectionist", and when someone tells me to do something, such as write a paper, I always put as much explanation into what I'm doing as I can. Then when I find out that I have to be under 1200 words (for my website), I do a word count, and I have about 2200 words (and I hate taking out my precious details). So I spent the next 3 days shortening it as much as I can, taking out as much as whole paragraphs out, it turned out it did not flow right, so I had to rewrite a bunch of stuff so someone who did not study computer science in college would understand. So I ended up creating a whole web tab on vocab words, entitled "good words to know".

My topic, Tim Berners Lee and the world wide web was a turning point in history. I know this because we use the web every day. Without it, I would not be able to make this document, as I made it through google docs. In math class, we use schoology to take online quizzes and tests. In Communications we do projects such as this one with web implementations. Other than the web changing the way education works, it also has a big effect on communication. Online, almost every news station has a website, where you can get the news. Then there's youtube, where you can learn to do almost anything for free, or just have a laugh. Facebook, where you can catch up with friends. We use the web more than you think. Some real impacts from the creation of the World Wide Web include cyber wars, identity theft, etc. With the creation of the web, you can access almost anything, even sites you are not supposed to be in. The web is

hackable, and with many computer geniuses out there, the ones working for good have to work hard to secure top secret info. The good thing is that we have come up with encrypting credit card numbers, so if you are buying from a reliable source you're safe. Though the unlucky ones have even got their identity stolen, and i don't even have to explain how bad that is. There are more negative effects of the web (which is on the website). Overall, the creation of the web has had an impact on the digitalized world today.

## Works Cited

Berners Lee, Tim. "Answers for Young People." *Answers for Young People*. The World Wide Web Consortium, n.d. Web. 01 Nov. 2012. This source was a website created by Tim Berners Lee himself to answer some common questions he has been asked over the years. This source was very important in my paper because (other than it was created by Tim) it answered some of my questions I had about the topic I chose. It also was a primary source, so that was a plus (it was difficult to find them).

Berners Lee, Tim. "Frequently Asked Questions." *By the Press*. W3C, n.d. Web. 08 Nov. 2012. This was another webpage through w3.org. This one also being by Tim Berners Lee. It answers some questions, but in more depth than the other source by Tim. It helped me get more of the inside story of the creation of the web through his eyes.

"Brief History of the Internet - Internet Timeline | Internet Society." *Brief History of the Internet - Internet Timeline | Internet Society*. Ed. Andy Rosenbloom. Internet Society, 2012. Web. 22 Oct. 2012. This paper was written by a group of experts on the topic of computers. Including people from MIT, other universities, heads of web companies, etc. Though it got a little technical for my tastes (half of the time I had no idea what they were talking about), but the information I did get out of it were put into my 'ARPANET' and internet parts of my website.

Chan, Min Li, Fritz Holznagel, and MinMichael Krantz Krantz. "20 Things I Learned About Browsers and the Web." *20 Things I Learned About Browsers and the Web*. Google, n.d. Web. 07 Nov. 2012. This source was published by google, therefore I knew they knew what they were talking about. It mostly helped with the causes of the web, and what it takes to make it what it is today.

Connally, Dan. "A Little History of the World Wide Web." *A Little History of the World Wide Web*. W3C, 2000. Web. 08 Nov. 2012. Yet another w3 source, it contains a timeline from the 1960s to 1995. This helped me keep track of main dates and events.

Gribble, Cheryl. "History of the Web Beginning at CERN." *History of the Web Beginning at CERN*. Hitmill.com, n.d. Web. 31 Oct. 2012. This source was a collection of events starting at CERN. It helped me get some main ideas to paraphrase and put into my website.

Gromov, Gregory R. "History of The Internet & World Wide Web." *History of The Internet & World Wide Web*. NetValley, 1995. Web. 08 Nov. 2012. This website included history of the World Wide Web and the Internet. I used it to find new info and double check the facts from other sources.

"Internet and the World Wide Web." The Gale Encyclopedia of Science. Ed. K. Lee Lerner and Brenda Wilmoth Lerner. 4th Ed. Detroit: Gale, 2008. Gale Student Resources In Context. Web. 5 Nov. 2012. This source contained a fact filled in depth paper from the beginnings of the internet to the latest innovations of the web. It helped me get a lot of new info I did not know before, and was in basic english easily readable by me.

McPherson, Stephanie S. *Tim Berners Lee; Inventor of the World Wide Web*. USA Today ed. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Twenty First Century, 2010. Print. Lifetime Biographies. This was a bibliography on the life of Tim Berners Lee. It helped me understand what exactly Tim did before, during, and after the occurances at CERN.

Peter, Ian. "Internet History Resource Centre." *Internet History Resource Centre*. The Internet History Project, 2004. Web. 23 Oct. 2012. This site was about basically everything about the internet. From prehistory to current stuff it helped me take notes on the causes, turning point, and effects of the creation of the web.

