

*The Peter Pan Complex:
Determining when a
SharePoint site should
grow into a hub site*

Nashville SUG
January 2019
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Agenda

- Information architecture in a flat world
- What are hub sites?
- Hub site usage criteria
- Managing hub sites & hub site requests
- Demo
- Wrap-up



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Information architecture in a flat world

“It’s a brave, new, modern, flat world in SharePoint.”

Joanne Klein, A Modern Site Architecture eBook

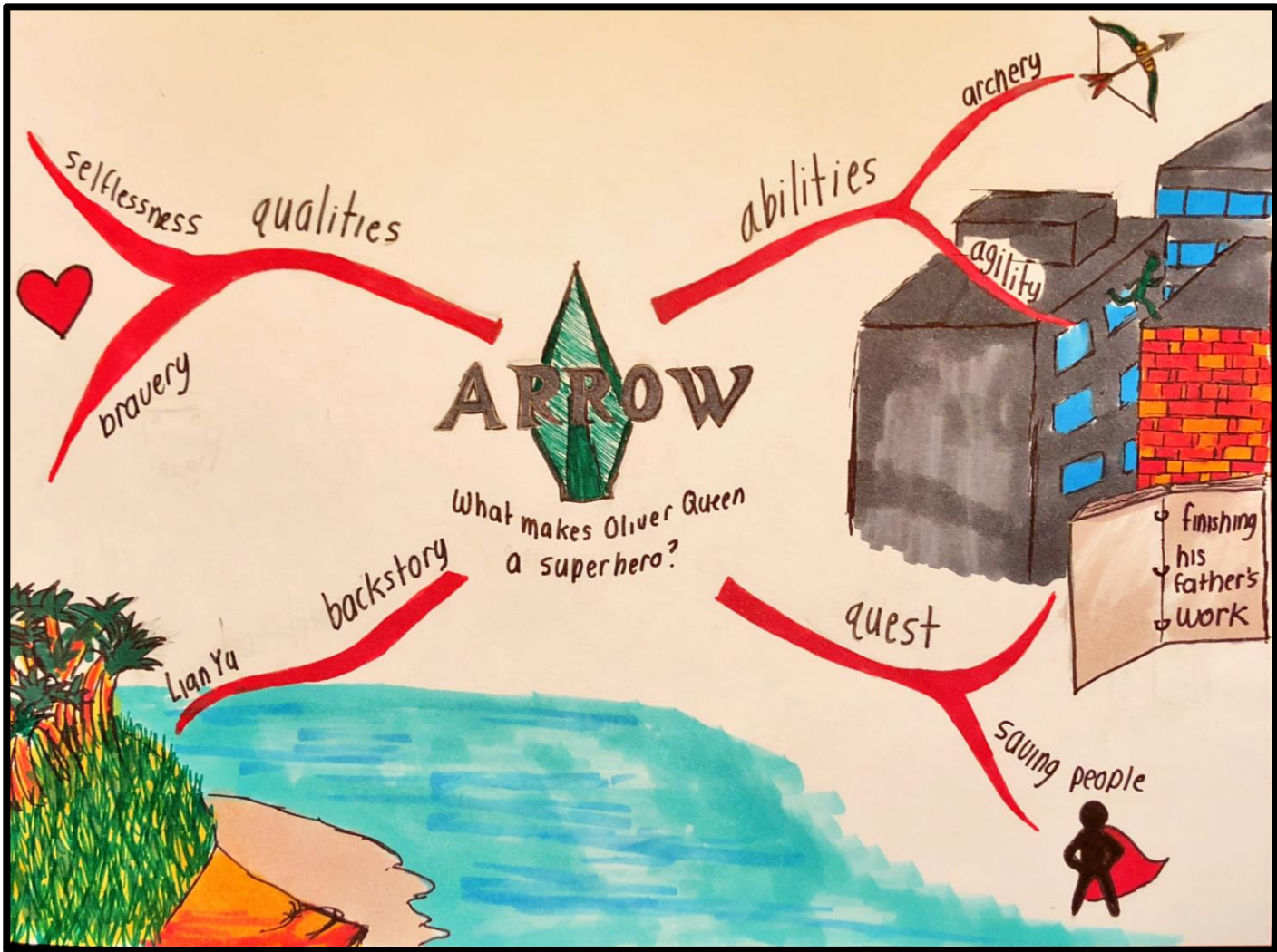
<https://t.co/Uw6kbn2hMQ?amp=1>





Why go flat?

- Modular
- Flexible over time; adapts to org changes
- Enables key Office 365 functionality
- Independent sites & settings
- Shorter URLs
- No site migrations

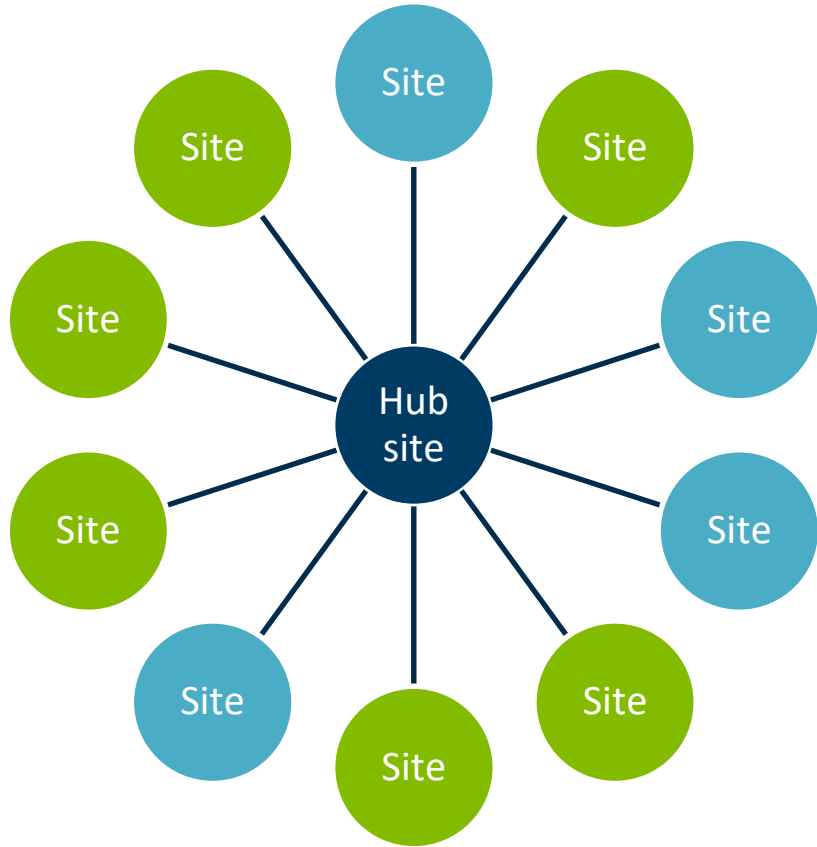




What are hub sites?



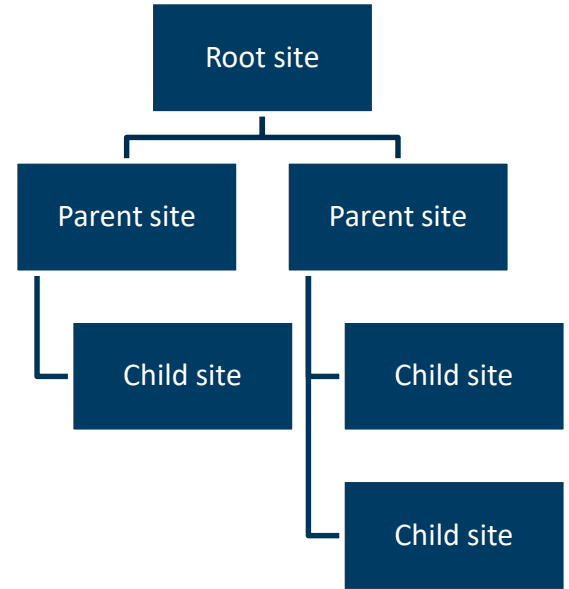
Hub sites

- Ties related SharePoint sites together
- Serves as contextual “glue”
- Enables users to “discover” content on related sites
- Provides cross-site navigation
- Displays content from multiple sites in a single rollup
- Provides consistent look & feel
- Enables quick & easy searching
- **Available only in Office 365**



 Communication site  Team site

Hub sites do not...

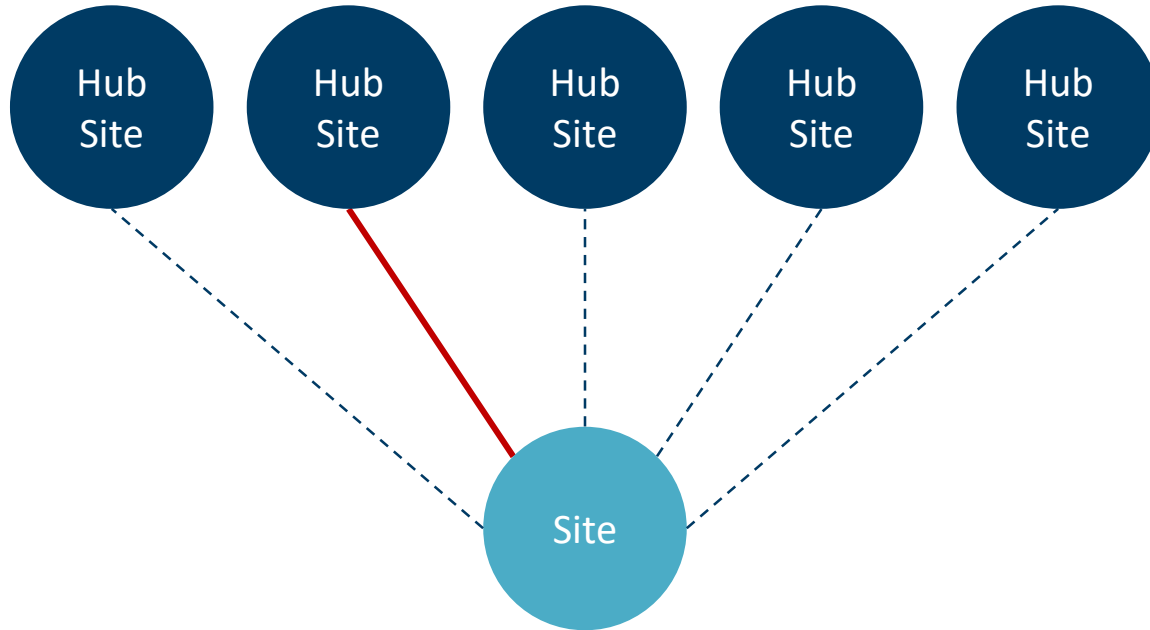


Hub sites...

- Are flexible
- Are logical, not physical
- Do not force permissions
- Do not impact site URLs
- Do not require site moves or migrations
- Can have many associated sites (but sites can only be associated with 1 hub...)
- By default, only show content from associated sites



A site can only be formally associated with a single hub.



But you can display news from any site on your hub.
You can also add any site to your hub site nav.



IT Hub

+ New ▾

News

+ Add ▾



Help Desk Meet our team

We've been on a hiring spree! Come and meet our expanded Help De...

 Sarah Haase
Full...

- Can link to associated sites
- Can link to sites not associated with the hub
- Can skip linking to associated sites
- Can link to external sites
- Can only go 3 levels deep hierarchically (at least until mega-menus)
- **Newly associated sites are not added automatically**



All employees are now able to create their own he...
Sarah Haase 5 days ago

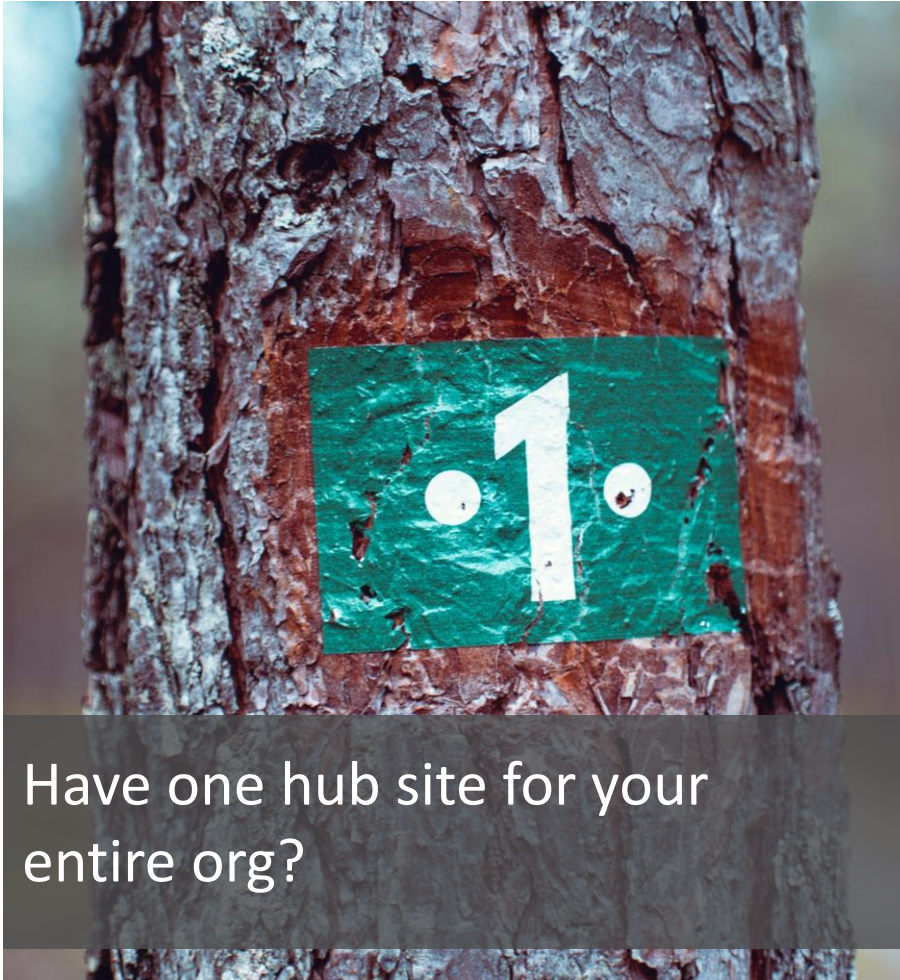


Shared Services
Welcome!
We'll be building out this new Shared Services tea...
Sarah Haase 7 days ago



Portfolio Management
IT portfolio management 101 | Computerworld

Hub site usage criteria



Have one hub site for your entire org?



Set aside hub sites for key business functions?



Hub sites are limited.
Only **100** hub sites are allowed per Office 365 tenant.



BIG TREE

	FEET	METERS
HEIGHT	286	87.2
DIAMETER	23.7	7.2
CIRCUMFERENCE	74.5	22.7
ESTIMATED AGE	1500	YEARS



Hub site creation is IT-controlled

- Can only be created by O365 global admins or SharePoint admins
- Enables IT to set up necessary scoping and governance protocols to curb organic growth
- 2 ways to create a hub site:
 - PowerShell
 - Modern O365 Admin Center
- Hubs can be created from new, empty sites OR from existing sites w/content*

Governance considerations

- Manage number of hubs
- Build hub site request process
- Determine who can approve hub requests
- Avoid creating duplicate hubs
- Define hub site naming conventions
- Define required minimum number of associated sites for hubs
- Define permission rules for associated sites
- Define roles & responsibilities for hub site owners & associated site owners
- Define thresholds for hub site management
- Build hub site audit process



Culture



Use Cases



Managing hub sites & hub site requests



PLEASE
COME IN

Hub site usage criteria...

- Do you need to tie multiple sites together with a similar branded look and feel?
- Do you want to centrally control the branding experience?
- Do you need to apply the same navigation settings to many different sites?
- Do you want to centrally control the navigation experience?
- Do you need to aggregate news from multiple sites into a single display?
- Do you need a targeted search function that searches multiple disparate SharePoint sites quickly and easily?
- Do you have multiple sites that fall under a logical business area (e.g. Human Resources, Legal, Communications)?
- Do you have a functional business reason to link site?
- Do you have a clear business objective?
- What value will a hub site provide?





Aligning sites & hubs

Associating sites* to hubs

Who	How
Site owners	Site information > Hub site association
Site owners or hub site owners	Click “create site” from the hub site
SharePoint admins or global admins	PowerShell OR Modern Admin Center

*Sub-sites cannot be associated to hubs. You can only associate site collections.

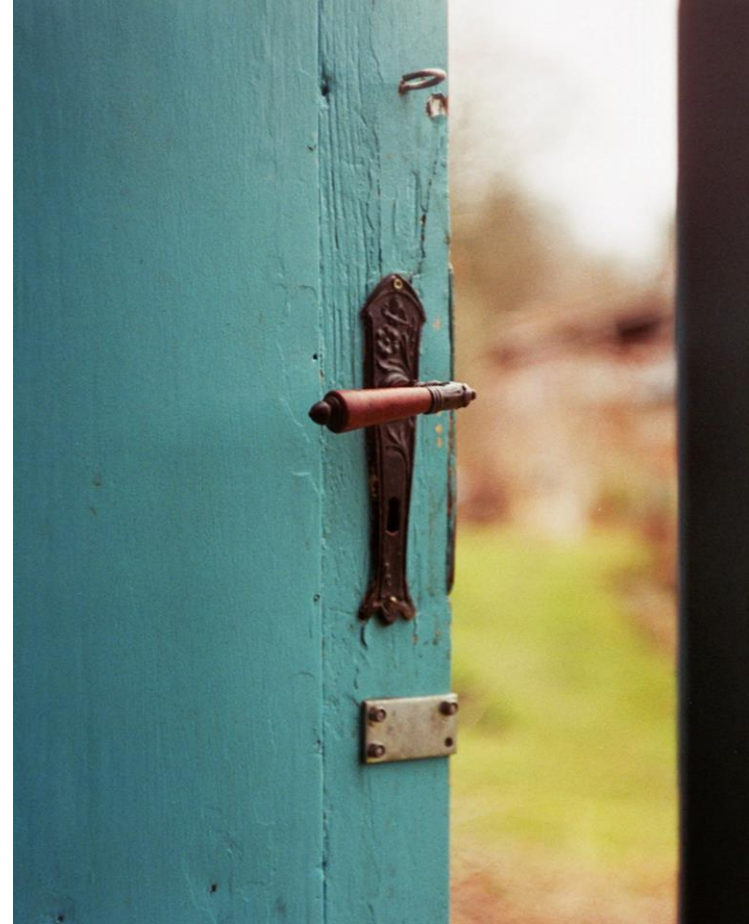
A close-up photograph of a bicycle's rear wheel and drivetrain. The focus is on the black chain, the blue metal gear (cassette), and the blue frame. The spokes of the wheel are visible in the background, creating a complex geometric pattern. The lighting is bright, highlighting the metallic textures and colors.

Hub associations can be permissioned

- Site owners only “see” hubs they have permissions to join
- Create mail-enabled security group & add users
- Run PowerShell command **Grant-SPOHubSiteRights -Identity -Principals GroupEmail -Rights JoinGrant-SPOHubSiteRights -Identity -Principals GroupEmail -Rights Join**
- Users must be in site collection admin group for the site they want to associate

Hub site join approvals!

- Integrated Microsoft Flow by 12/31
- Flow trigger & actions available today:
 - Trigger:
 - “When a site has requested to join a hub site”
 - Actions:
 - Approve hub site join request
 - Cancel hub site join request
 - Join hub site
 - Set hub site join status to pending



Site scripts and site designs

- A **site script** is a JSON file that defines a set of actions to take on a site (e.g. create a list, create site columns, add a site logo)
- Site script(s) are tied to **site designs** via PowerShell. Site designs can then be applied to site(s)

Site designs & hubs:

- Site design can be registered on a hub via PowerShell OR via hub settings on the hub site itself
- Once registered, the site design is inherited by all sites associated w/the hub
- Creates common information architecture across all associated sites

DEMO

Global Admin or SharePoint Admin

- Create hub sites

Hub Site Owner

- Define hub branding/theme
- Manage hub site permissions, content & site design
- Manage site designs & site scripts
- Associate new sites to the hub
- Determine whether others can associate sites to the hub
- Define whether hub site join approvals are required

Site Owner

- Own 1 or more associated sites
- Manage associated site permissions, content & site design
- Can associate their site to any existing hub they have permissions to...

- **New features (by end of 2018):**

- Create & manage hubs from modern Admin Center
- Hubs support multi-geo
- Create new associated site from a hub site
- Hub site join approvals
- Megamenu layout for hub nav
- Hub event rollups
- Audience targeting in News

- **First half of 2019:**

- Hub limit increase
- Hub site footer
- Audience targeting in site and hub nav

- **Possibilities:**

- Hub metadata & content types
- Hub-level policies
- Global nav & footer
- Multi-hub parenting
- Nested hubs

Resources

- *Build your modern intranet on SharePoint in Office 365.* <https://aka.ms/SharePoint-build-modern-intranet>
- *Design beautiful and performant sites, pages, and web parts with SharePoint in Office 365.* <https://aka.ms/spdesignguidance>
- Klein, Joanne. *A Modern Site Architecture.* <https://t.co/Uw6kbn2hMQ?amp=1>
- *Learn about SharePoint Hub Sites (Microsoft Ignite BRK3360).* https://youtu.be/_rME6sRHxGU
- *New innovations in SharePoint & Microsoft 365 deliver power and simplicity for content collaboration (Sept. 24, 2018).* <https://aka.ms/SharePoint-Ignite>
- *Planning your SharePoint hub sites (Sept. 26, 2018).* <https://bit.ly/2CRFSev>
- *SharePoint hub site updates, plus new page and web part improvements (August 21, 2018).* <https://bit.ly/2oHGtar>

Questions?



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<http://blog.splibrarian.com/>