

Mapping History with Google My Maps

Grade Level(s):

4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Subject(s):

- * Social Studies
- * World History
- * Geography

Duration:

Two forty five minute classroom sessions

Description:

Using Google My Maps students create their own maps to make the connection between past and present, as well as apply their research to a project that can be shared with the world. Using Google Maps with the CyArk Media, students place photos, videos and panoramas to the geographic location of a site to create a tour, show a historical journey or to map areas and sites studied in class.

Getting Started with Google Maps and Earth

Viewing Google Maps and downloading Google Earth is free for the public. To create a personalized map in Google My Maps, you will need a Google account. Registering for a Google account is free.

Google Schools UK offers detailed instructions on how to use Google Maps, create My Maps, use Google Earth, and how to create 3-D buildings for Google Earth. This tutorial explains how to add place markers in Google Maps, draw lines and measure the distance between points. This tutorial also demonstrates how to add images, video and links in the place marker description area.

<http://www.google.co.uk/schools/howto.html>

In the Classroom

When an ancient site, country or civilization is brought up in class, have students individually locate or show the class the modern day location of the area of interest. You can use Google Maps or the CyArk Hazard Map (<http://archive.cyark.org/hazards/index.php>). The CyArk hazard map can be very good for locating sites denoted as world heritage sites. World Heritage sites can be located by using the search bar or by selecting the yellow marker on the map. The CyArk map also shows the site's relation to modern day sites and topographical features.

Google Maps may not have the ancient names of sites listed in their search. However, if you know the coordinates of an ancient site you would like to examine, you can enter these coordinates into the search field. Wikipedia often offers the geographical coordinates of major historical sites.

Zoom in to view the modern day architectures and other man made features. Are there any visible monuments of the ancient world?

Zoom out and have students view the surrounding geography. Google Map's terrain feature can be very helpful in allowing students to visualize elevation and other geographical features. What geographical features are nearby? Mountains? Rivers? Oceans? How might they have influenced the development of a culture? What modern day countries are near by? Are there any other ancient civilizations that the class has learned about in the near proximity of the culture? How would this affect the cultures?

Project Ideas

Famous Monuments Tour Guide

Have students go to the CyArk archive and select Angkor Wat. In the upper right corner of the page, have students select "Map." This allows students to view media plotted on a map of Angkor Wat. Have students explore some of the media. Learning the spatial location of the image can help students get a better sense of the site. The size of a site and the surrounding areas can provide more information about a monument. Ask student what kinds of knowledge can be learned from knowing the location of a picture? How does a map help us learn about a site?

Tell students that they will be creating a similar map in Google Maps about a monument they have studied in class.

Have student choose a famous monument relating to their current area of study. Using Google Maps, locate the monument and view the monument in satellite view. Students will be playing the role as a "virtual tour guide" and research interesting parts of the monument that they would like to present on their tour. Students will research their monument and use Google My Maps to diagram the monument.

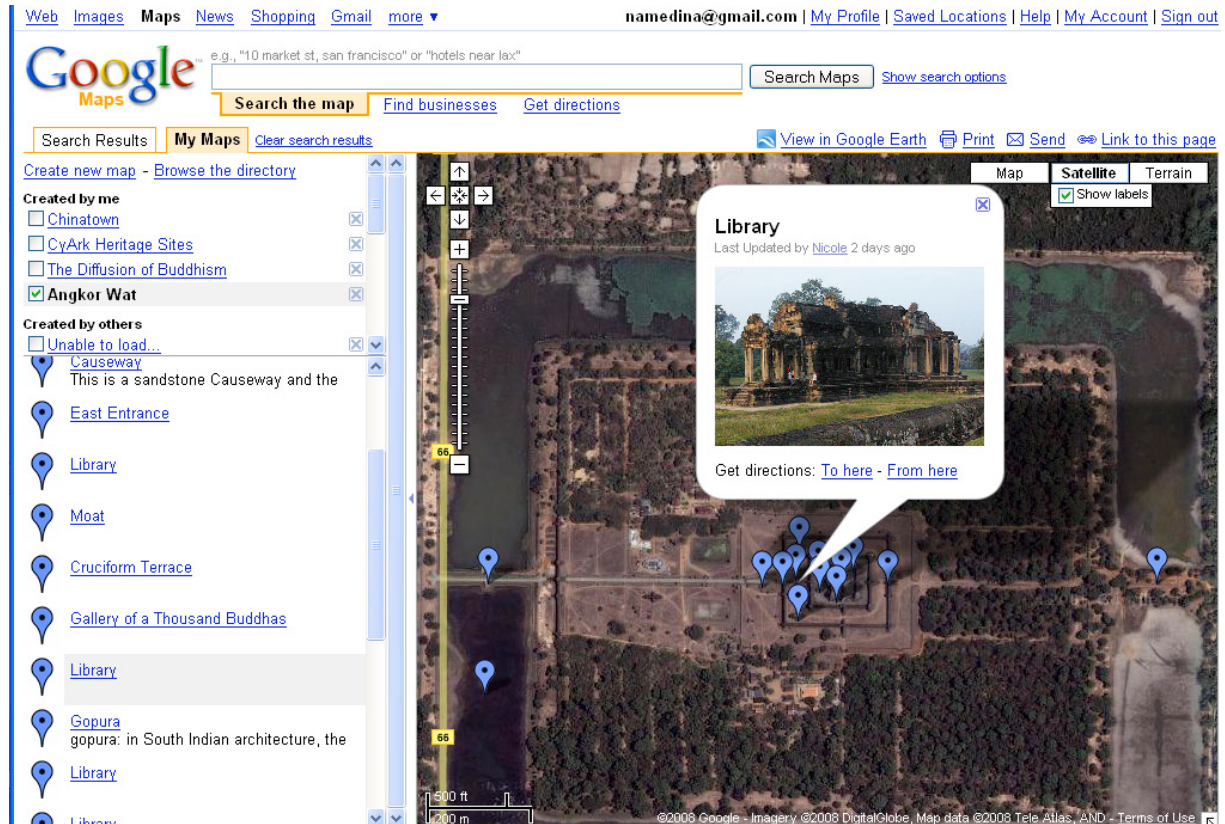
Students can use place markers to denote features, such as architectural features on a building, buildings making up a larger site, and other points of interest. Students should use place markers to not only label points of interest but to show their research by including facts related to their place markers. Photos, definitions, links to videos, interesting historical notes and descriptions can be included in the Google Map place marker description bubbles.

When labeling points of interest, students should also think about the order they would like their virtual visitor to click on in their map. Students can label the description bubbles with numbers to indicate the order of their virtual tour.

Examples

-Locating and labeling major buildings and features of Angkor Wat

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=108021342191246553631.0004494ff337ad79d0ed2&t=h&z=14>



Notes: Google Maps does not have high resolution satellite views for all areas. This activity works best if students are able to use high levels of zoom to view and label their monument.

Historical Journeys

Students will map important cities and places and use Google My Map's line feature to show the path of an idea, person or civilization over time. Using the line and area tools in Google, students can measure distances that people or ideas traveled.

Project Ideas:

- Mapping the diffusion of ideas and religion
- Mapping the life history of a famous person's life and travels
- Mapping an explorer's or conqueror's exploits
- Mapping the extent of an empire
- Mapping the journey of a fictional character in a historical fiction novel
- Mapping the diffusion of an artifact, an agricultural product or an architectural style

Example:

Mapping the Diffusion of Buddhism in Asia

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=108021342191246553631.0004495be47c0212434dc&z=3>

Web Images Maps News Shopping Gmail more

namedina@gmail.com | My Profile | Saved Locations | Help | My Account | Sign out

Google Maps

e.g., "10 market st, san francisco" or "hotels near lax"

Search Maps Show search options

Search the map Find businesses Get directions

Search Results My Maps Clear search results

View in Google Earth Print Send Link to this page

Create new map - Browse the directory

Created by me

- ☐ Chinatown
- ☐ CyArk Heritage Sites
- ☒ The Diffusion of Buddhism
- ☐ Angkor Wat

Created by others

- ☐ Unable to load...

Collaborate Edit

The Diffusion of Buddhism

1 views - Public
Created on Mar 26 - Updated 3 hours ago
By Nicole
[Rate this map](#) - [Write a comment](#)

- [Birthplace of Buddhism-Modern Day India](#)
- [1st century AD - Central Asia](#)
The first step in the transmission of
- [Mahayana Buddhism-1st Century AD](#)
Buddhism spread along the silk road
- [1st century AD -China](#)
Buddhism spreads along the Silk Road
- [Mahayana Buddhism -1st Century AD](#)
Buddhism spreads along the silk road
- [2nd Century-Modern Day Vietnam](#)
Buddhism came to Vietnam in the first

Mapping Areas and Sites of Study

Google My Maps can be used to plot various locations discussed in the classroom. Students can learn about the geography of the various sites discussed in class.

Project Ideas

- Mapping ancient temples and major cities of the Mayan empire
- Mapping city states and important temples in the Greek Empire
- Mapping Roman baths discovered across Europe
- Mapping famous historic battles and events in a war

Example:

Sites Documented by CyArk High Definition Heritage Network

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=108021342191246553631.0004494eed6580c43c7af&ll=15.623037,-24.609375&spn=138.635879,235.898437&t=h&z=2>

The screenshot shows a Google Maps interface with a custom map titled "CyArk Heritage Sites". The map displays various locations marked with blue pins across the world, including Angkor Wat, Cathedral of Saint Pierre de Beauvais, Chavin de Huantar, Deadwood, Presidio Officer's Club, and Mesa Verde. The left sidebar shows the map's metadata and a list of sites. The top navigation bar includes links for Web, Images, Maps, News, Shopping, and Gmail. The bottom of the map shows a scale bar and copyright information.

Google Maps
e.g., "10 market st, san francisco" or "hotels near lax"
675 Broadway, san francisco
Search Maps Show search options
Search the map Find businesses Get directions
Search Results My Maps Clear search results
View in Google Earth Print Send Link to this page
Create new map Browse the directory
Created by me
☐ Chinatown
☒ CyArk Heritage Sites
☐ The Diffusion of Buddhism
☐ Angkor Wat
Created by others
☐ Unable to load...
Collaborate Edit
CyArk Heritage Sites
0 views - Public
Created on Mar 25 - Updated 2 hours ago
By Nicole
Rate this map - Write a comment
Angkor Wat
The original Angkor Archaeological Park
Cathedral of Saint Pierre de Beauvais
Laser scan 3-D data tour The High Gothic
Chavin de Huantar
3-D laser scan data of Chavin showcase
Deadwood
3-D animation of Deadwood Deadwood
Presidio Officer's Club
Located within San Francisco's Presidio,
Mesa Verde
Mesa Verde Documentation Video
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2000 km
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