

## Get Outside Google Earth Tours

### Introduction:

When you are in class, do you ever wish you could visit the places your teachers teach you about? When you are discussing history do you ever wish you could see the ruins of great monuments, or see the gilded halls of castles? Sometimes the places we study about are far away either in space or time or both! Through Images like the photographs or paintings you saw on the tour, we can get a deeper understanding of the places we study. Google Earth is a fascinating technology that compiles images of geographic locations all around the globe. Through the use of google earth people can look around locales that are either next-door, or in another hemisphere.

### Activity:

Using Google Earth, you will be creating your own personal virtual fieldtrips centered around the Social Studies. The directions below will help you to learn how to use Google Earth's Tour Builder program, and will help you make a fun and informative tour to share with your teachers, classmates, and friends! You'll be making a tour that helps to show content from your social studies class! This could be a class like History, Current Events, or even psychology. You'll choose five important places from the area you're studying to serve as the stops on your tour, be as creative as you'd like!

### Directions:

1. **Pre-Activity:** Before you start building your own tour, you need to complete this activity to get familiar with the features of Google Earth. Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego is a game through google earth that sends you on a brief tour of the world in search of Carmen Sandiego. While you go through the game take note of the different features that you can use to view the locations and maps the game takes you to.
  - o Link: <https://earth.google.com/web/@17.90693717,-12.41937117,-34606.6327455a,57359668.97d,35y,0.00004064h,18.19296234t,0r/data=CjwSOHlgYmU3N2ZmYzU0MTc1MTFIOGFIOGZkMzdkYTU5MmE0MmEiFnNwbC14LXgteC1zcGxhc2hzY3JlZW4>
2. **Choosing Stops:** The tour you get to design has five stops on it, the same number of spots on the Carmen Sandiego game. So you will need to look up five places that are important to the content you are studying. For example, if you are studying Ancient Egypt, then you may want to choose the Sphinx as one stop, ruins at Thebes as another or the Great Pyramid of Khufu as third possible stop. There will be space provided below on the planning sheet for you to list your stops, and their addresses.

3. **Initial Research:** Once you have chosen the five spots you'd like to include on your tour you'll need to do a little research on them. Do some digging in any books you may have on your subject, or look online for more information about the tour stops you've chosen. If you are researching online though, be careful of the sites you use, make sure they are credible. (This means that they are current, they come from a respected source, the author is a respected expert in the particular area they are writing about.)
4. **Writing:** To make your tour, you will need to write the following:
  - Introduction: This is the introduction to your whole tour! Make sure to welcome your tour guests, and to tell them how you went about picking your sites. What was the organizing principal of your tour? Is there anything your tour guests should know before they begin taking your tour?
  - Stop Information: For each of your five stops you'll need to write up a brief but informative paragraph that explains the history and significance of each site you chose. These entries should not need to go past 100 words. For example if I chose the White House on a tour of American Government I would be sure to briefly talk about the history of the White House, and mention why it is important to American Government.
5. **Inputting Information:** Once you have written your tour introduction, and the information for your five stops, you are ready to type, or copy/paste, the paragraphs into Google Tour Builder. The planning sheet below will have more detailed information on tour building.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Google Earth Tours: Student Planning Sheet

### **Tour Stop Choices:**

Stop One (Name and Address): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Stop Two (Name and Address): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Stop Three (Name and Address): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Stop Four (Name and Address): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Stop Five (Name and Address): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Tour Introduction:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Stop Information:**

Stop Number:	Stop Information:
One	
Two	
Three	
Four	
Five	

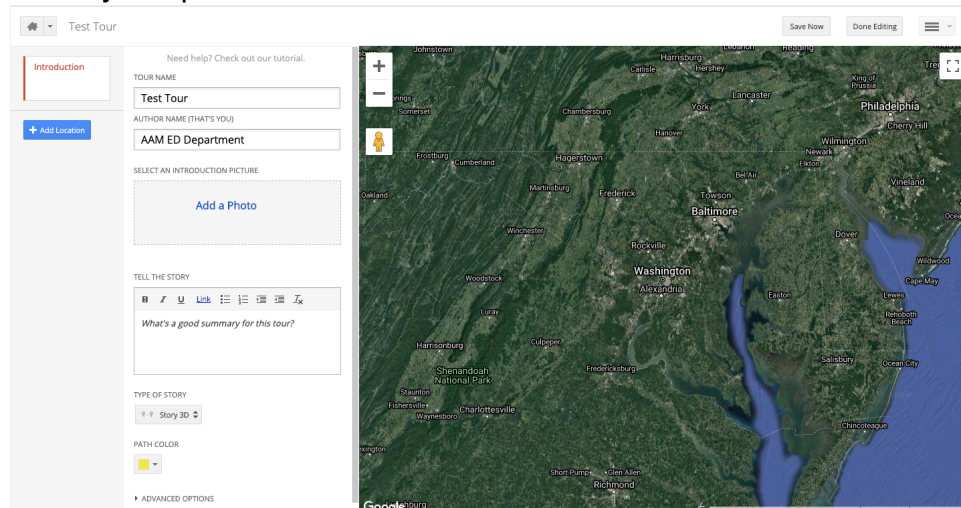
## Inputting Information:

**Directions:** Now you are ready to input your paragraphs into Google's Tour Builder.

- First you need to open Tour Builder at the following link:
  - Link: <https://www.google.com/earth/outreach/learn/storytelling-with-maps-using-tour-builder/>

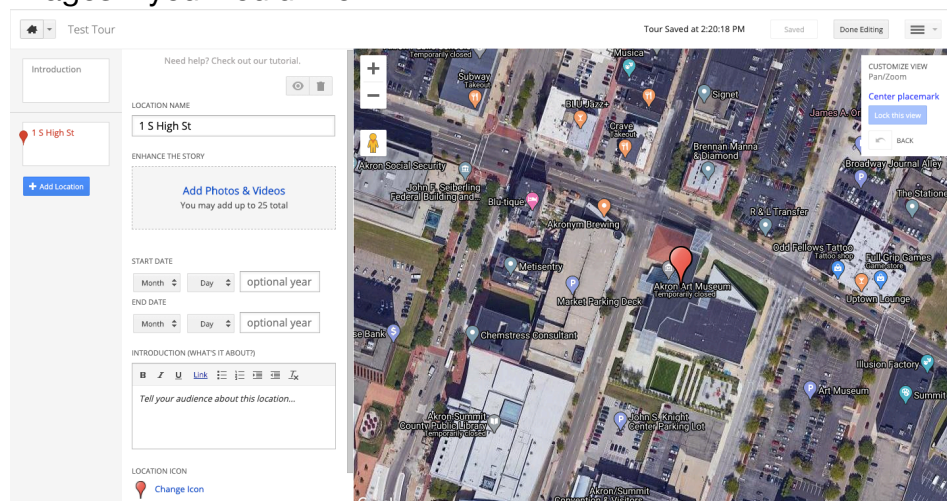
This link also contains tutorials and troubleshooting information for all the various features of Tour Builder, if you're ever stuck this is the place to go for answers!

- When you open tour builder the screen will look like this:



You will begin by entering in your tour introduction paragraph in the "Tell The Story" Textbox. You may also choose to add a photo for your tour.

- After your add your introduction, you need to click the blue "Add Location" button you will then be prompted to enter the address of the tour stop. Once you enter this the location will appear and you can enter your text and additional images if you would like.



4. You'll need to repeat step three until you've added all five stops on your tour.
5. To wrap up your tour click the white "Done Editing" button, then to share it with your teachers and classmates by clicking on the blue "Share" button. You share tours via email addresses, similar to how you would share a Google Doc.

Final Suggestions:

- When prompted for images of the tour sites, add them! These will add a more finished, polished look to your tour.
- Another addition to the tour that makes it more creative and personal you can change the red location marker to many different colors and shapes.
- Encourage people who see your tour to use the "Streetview" feature. By dragging the small orange person icon found in the upper left-hand corner of the map onto the map, you will be able to see the building or location as if you were standing on the street in front of it.