ArcGIS Online Five By Five

Five Activities You Can Do In 5 Minutes Each (No login required)

(requires computers with internet speed able to support simultaneous web-based mapping by all)

ACTIVITY ONE: See Your World

1. Go to **http://www.arcgis.com**, and click "Map"
2. Grab, hold, and move the map to pan
3. Test out zooming in and out, using the map's zoom bar, the mouse's scroll-wheel, double-click, and "shift+clickdrag".
4. Zoom all the way out to the world, and all the way in to your home. Notice what happens when you zoom in and out.
5. Use the Search box in the top right to find the address of a friend, a relative, or a place, like your state's capital city.
6. Click the Basemap button and look at each of the different basemaps, from all the way out to all the way in. Notice what happens in each as you zoom in and out.

ACTIVITY TWO: Measure and Mark Your World

1. Zoom out to the world. Click "Measure" and choose "line". Measure (click to start, double-click to stop) roughly the distance from western USA to Europe, and western USA to central Asia, and northern Alaska to the southern tip of Africa and then the southern tip of South America. (Extra credit: What's a "great circle"?)
2. Change the measure tool from the ruler to the location tool (looks like a little globe). Click it, wander the map, then zoom in and find the coordinates for your home, Mt. Everest, and the White House. Close the Measure window.
3. Click "Modify Map." Click the "Add" button, choose "Add Map Notes," and use the "Map Notes" template by clicking "Create." Drop a pushpin on Mt. Everest and name it "Mt. Everest." Zoom back to the White House, drop a pin, and name it. This time, click "Change Symbol," and stroll thru the symbol choices, in "Basic" and the other palettes.
4. Zoom back home and use the "Add Features" palette to add an "Area" for the school grounds, and a line for your route to and from school. Click "Details" (top left) when done creating data.

ACTIVITY THREE: Explore Your World

1. At the top of the map, click "New Map", and choose "Open". This will give you a new clean map space, with the Topo basemap, and no additional layers.
2. Choose "Add/Search for Layers." In the "Find" window, type "population". Near the top, you should find "USA Population Density". Click on the name, see a quick thumbnail, and click on "Add to map." Then, at the bottom of the left-hand window, click "Done Adding Layers."

3. Zoom/pan so you can see all 50 states as states, and then zoom in to your home, one click at a time on the map's zoom bar. As you zoom in, click on the state, and then the county, and then Census Tract, and finally Block Group, and read the text that shows up with each zoom.
4. It sure would be nice to know what the colors mean! At the top of the left-hand window, click the "Legend" button, and see what the colors mean, and see if the colors and meanings change as you zoom in and out.
5. Pan around your state and see if every place looks alike. Wouldn't it help to see thru the population layer to the landmarks below? At the top of the left-hand window, click the "Content" button. Hover the mouse over the name "USA Population Density" until you see a little pull-down menu icon at the right end of the name. Click the pull-down, click "Transparency", and play with the little slider.

ACTIVITY FOUR: Expand Your World: Open a saved map

1. Use a shortcut URL to go directly: http://esriurl.com/recentquakesmap. Explore briefly, turning the layers' checkmarks off and on.
2. Use a long URL to go directly: http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=79151205f3124c13bc814fda3170e901. Try turning on the "old map" layers.
3. Use ArcGIS Online search. Go to http://www.arcgis.com, then click "Gallery" at the top. In the search box at the top-right of the page (NOT your browser bar's search box), type "usa demographics for schools," click the magnifying glass, and in the results click on the topmost thumbnail. The map should open with 10 layers in it. Zoom to your location, turn off population density, and try the other layers. (Extra credit: If more than one is checked, which one is visible in the map?)

ACTIVITY FIVE: App the World: Try out a focused app:

1. Story Map: visit to DC's National Mall = http://storymaps.esri.com/stories/malltour/
2. Urban Observatory app = http://www.urbanobservatory.org/compare/
3. Terrain profile = http://esriurl.com/elevation

Now, what is something about which you would like to make a map?

For more about using ArcGIS Online in education, see http://esriurl.com/mappingwithago and http://esriurl.com/agoskillbuilder.