Strike-through Lesson 🚫

In this type of lesson, students use the "strikethrough" tags to mark out text that is false or does not belong.

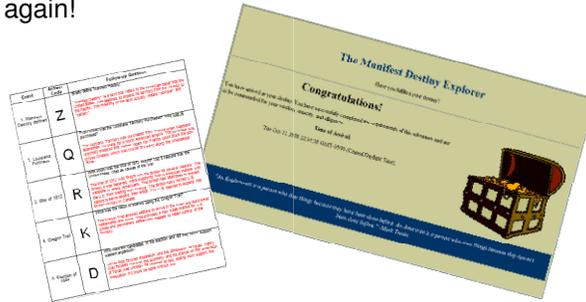Example: Strikethrough the False statement:

1. Many of the Texan soldiers had left for Matamoros to reclaim land that the Mexican government had taken from Dr. James Grant.

2. Colonel Neill was left with about 30 men and so called for volunteers.

3. ~~Sam Houston, head of all Texas troops, ordered Colonel James Bowie and Colonel Neill to stay and defend the Alamo.~~

This is the <s>strikethrough</s> tag.

Secret Code

Students tour placemarks with multiple choice questions with each answer choice assigned to a letter or number. At the end of the lesson, students are directed to a website where they are instructed to enter the string of numbers/letters as the secret code.

If the code is correct, a congratulatory note will appear and can be printed (with date/time stamp). If incorrect, students are directed to try again!

Scavenger Hunt

In this type of activity, students search the virtual globe for examples of key concepts then label them accordingly.
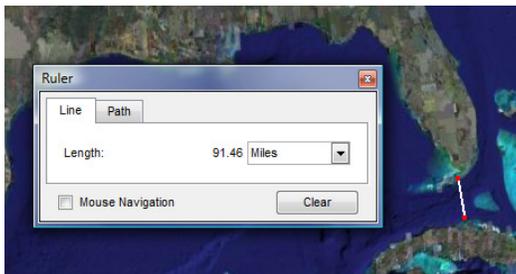
Ex: Geographic Terms (peninsula, delta, etc.)

Measurement

The built-in Google Earth tool allows students to measure the distance between two points in various units including miles and kilometers (and even smoots). Measurement along a path can also be used.
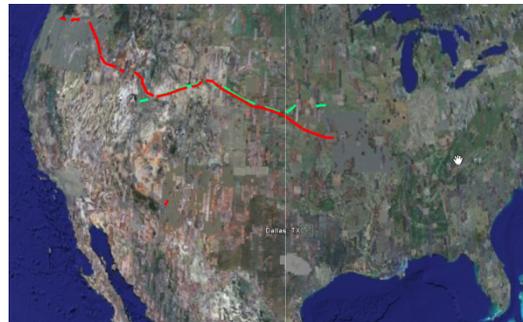
This lends itself to use in lessons where measuring distance between geographic locations may be important. Ex: movement of troops, immigration, westward expansion, exploration.
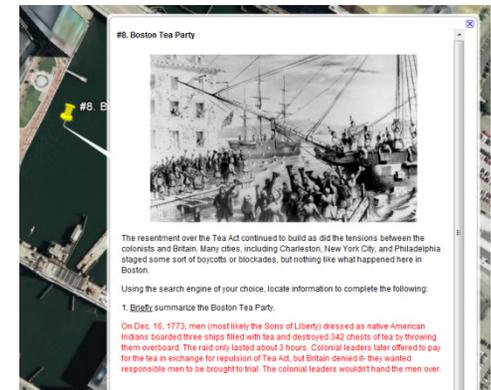

Drawing Paths

The built-in Google Earth path tool allows students to draw lines on top of the Google Earth terrain.

This allows students to markup the Google Earth globe for such concepts as marking borders, paths of explorers, and other movements (Oregon Trail, Mormon Trail, etc.).

Student Created Placemarks

Students use the Add Placemark tool to add placemarks at various locations with historical significance. At each placemarks, students can enter text, images, and links to elaborate upon a concept or summarize important events.

Placemarks with Links

In order for students to discover information about concepts and events, teachers can build placemarks with hyperlinks to various websites. The text of the placemark may ask questions that are to be answered using the websites and students enter their answers on a printed answer sheet.

Washington State, USA

The logging industry has marred the landsape here. Notice the numerous logging roads leading to and from the devastated areas.

Zoom out slowly to see the extent of the deforestation.

Photo by Rhett Butler of Mongabay.com, used with permission

Check out this website and answer this question:

One of the main sources of deforestation is in the logging of trees. Other than the obvious loss of trees, list two other effects that logging has on the forest.

Change the Icon

Every placemark in Google Earth is represented by an icon. There are over 150 built-in icons to choose from, or your own custom icons can be created from an image.

This allows students to classify placemarks based upon specific criteria. Ex: Victors in battle, Fact or Opinion, North or South, etc.

☐ 🇺🇸 Battle #1
Battle of Ticonderoga
Find information

☐ 🇬🇧 Battle #2
Battle of Bunker Hill
Find information about this battle

☑ 🇬🇧 Battle #3
Battle of Long Island
Find information about this battle

☐ 🇺🇸 Battle #4
Battle of Trenton
Find information about this battle

☐ 🇺🇸 Battle #5
Battle of Princeton

Eliminating Placemarks

Google Earth can be loaded with placemarks at various locations. The teacher provides hints/clues that lead to the mystery location. Students eliminate the placemarks that don't fit into the clue set, deducing the answer.

Ex: Earth Features
1. My home is south of the Tropic of Cancer
2. It is summer during Christmas here
3. I am 200 miles from any ocean

Placemarked Answers

Similar to placemarks with links, this type of activities is truly paperless. Students read the content of the placemarks, visit sites as instructed, then enter their answers directly into the placemark by editing the placemarks description.

The placemarks contain placeholder text for students to simply replace with their own.

Battle #9

Battle of Yorktown

Find information about this battle at TheAmericanRevolution.org website. Verify the accuracy of your findings by using other websites.

Date: 28 September – 19 October 1781

Summary: British troops, under General Cornwallace, had taken a defensive position in Yorktown, Virginia, next to the river (surrounded by water on three sides). His troops had been reduced down by other battles in the southern campaigns. Together with French forces, General George Washington led troops to Yorktown.

Photo by Captain Oblivious. Used with permission.

Passports

Students visit various placemarks that contain text, images, and links. Students are then instructed to describe certain aspects of each placemark and their answers are entered on their digital "passport" (student activity document). Furthermore, each placemark contains a unique "stamp" graphic that students copy and paste into their digital passport as proof of their visit to each site.

Ex: Tour of the 13 Colonies

Remove the Graphic

This is a simple classification activity where each placemark contains multiple graphics, each representing a category or type of the item or concept being studied. Students delete the graphics that do not represent the feature or match the description- much like scratching out the wrong answer choices of a multiple choice question.
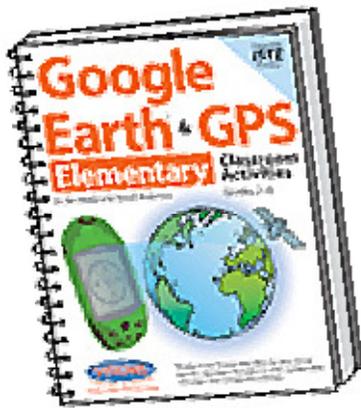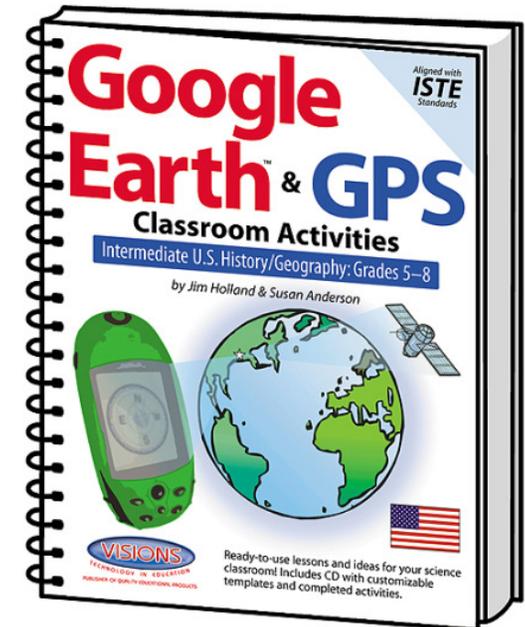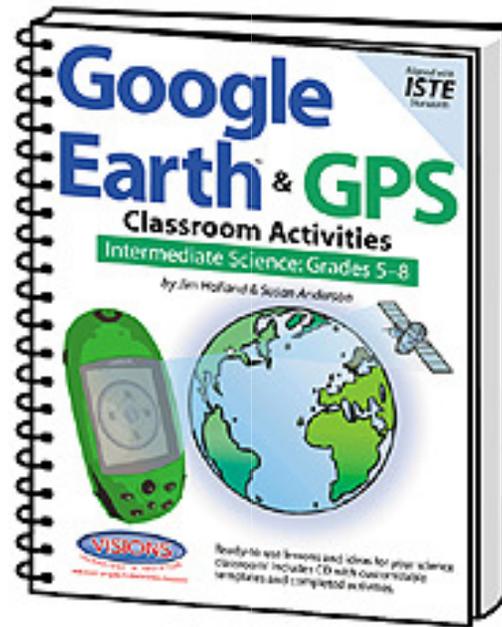
Ex: Types of Volcanoes

Cerro Negro, Nicaragua

This Nicaraguan volcano is thought to be the youngest in Central America, as birth around 1850. The volcano erupts frequently and emits a great deal of ash which falls back near the vent of the cone. The layers of ash have made way for a new sport and industry- volcano boarding (read about it here)

Explain your answer here!

Don't have time to create your own Google Earth activities? Ready-made lessons are available in our recently published book:

Available at www.digitalgoonies.com

For the latest and greatest Web 2.0 sites for educators, be sure to check out our blog:

www.digitalgoonies.com

We sift through the mountain of Web 2.0 websites to bring you the best free, web applications to use in your curriculum!

Bring one of our workshops to your campus!

jim@digitalgoonies.com
susan@digitalgoonies.com

Advanced Editing in Google Earth Balloons

Bold Text   An artisan is a skilled worker.
Italics   <i>Holes</i> was filmed here.
Underline   Is this <u>fact</u> or <u>opinion</u>?
Insert line break
Paragraph break   <p>
Horizontal line   <hr>

Link: Visit this website.
Image: <img src= "http://www.anysite.com/sample.jpg">

Font size   text here
                        size can be 1(tiny) through 7(large)

Font color   text here
                         text

Background color- place code at very top of balloon
                        <body bgcolor=navy> or
                        <body bgcolor="#FF336F">

Center objects   <center> text or object here </center>

Heading   <h1>Title here</h1> or <h4>Title</h4>
                        size can be 1(large) through 6(small)

Web 2.0 Tools

Web 2.0 Tools for Educators Wiki
(http://webapplications.wikispaces.com)

Drawing Tools
QlipBoard (http://www.qlipmedia.com/)

Slideshows
Animoto (http://www.animoto.com/)
MagToo (http://www.magtoo.com/)
Scrapblog (http://www.scrapblog.com/)
Slideshare (http://www.slideshare.net/)
Slideroll (http://www.slideroll.com/)

Timelines
CircaVie (http://www.circavie.com)
TimeToast (http://www.timetoast.com/)

Other Helpful Tools
Online Stopwatch (http://www.online-stopwatch.com/)
Random Name Picker
(http://www.classtools.net/main_area/fruit_machine.htm)
Talking Avatars (http://www.voki.com/)