

## GIS Lesson/Project Plan

- Title: "Where are you from?"
- Topic: Cultural Awareness/Appreciating Cultural Differences/Cultural Diversity
- Objectives: To increase an understanding of different cultures.  
To explore the world using Google Earth.
- Grades: 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>
- Timeframe: 2-3 sessions
- Needs: Laptop Computer; Access to Google Earth; Interview questions; LCD projector;
- Procedures: 1) Discuss differences among cultures that they are aware of.  
2) Compile a list of the birthplaces of the students in the class. Record on the whiteboard or poster paper.  
3) Using the list, utilize Google Earth to placemark the students' birthplaces as a whole group activity. Show students the tour they have created. Save the data in a folder for possible retrieval at a later time.  
4) Inform students that the next phase of the project requires interviewing parents/grandparents to find where they were born and other information. Allow time for the students to draft questions they will use. (Ex: Where were you born? What year was it? What were some of your favorite memories from childhood? What were some of your favorite foods from childhood?)  
5) Allow time for small group sharing of the information they learned from their interviews. Then allow students to share one interesting fact with the whole group.  
6) As a whole group activity, use the information obtained to set placemarks and add comments to the class' Google Earth map.  
7) Using advanced feature options, mark layers, paths and/or the distance from the parent(s)/grandparent(s) birthplace to where we are.
- Conclusion: Play the "tour." Discuss the distances that many families have traveled to make America **or** our state their home.
- Evaluation: Reflection Activity: Students will write a summary that includes:
1. What they learned from this activity about their family.
  2. What they learned from this activity about their peers' families.
  3. What they thought about using Google Earth for this activity.
  4. Ideas for using Google Earth or another GIS. (This information can be used for future planning to meet academic standards and the interests of the students.) Example: Research and track the path of the Underground Railroad for Social Studies.