It’s About the Journey: An Into to Google Tour Builder

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Session Agenda

- What is Tour Builder?
- An example Tour
- Creating a Tour
- Sharing Tours
- Playing Tours
- More Examples
What is Google Tour Builder?
Tour Builder Overview

**Google Tour Builder** is a web-based tool that lets you create and share virtual tours by placing locations on a map.

- Teacher created
  - Add depth/context
- Student created
  - Demonstrate learning
Tour Builder Overview

Tour Builder can include elements such as:

- Locations
- Images
- Videos
- Descriptions

- Hyperlinks
- Date Ranges
- Custom Icons
- And More
Tour Builder Overview

When done you can:

- **Play** your tour
- **Share** your tour
- **Open** your tour in [Google Earth](https://www.google.com/earth)
Tour Builder Overview

Tour Builder can be used in any subject to:

- Tell a story
- Retell an event
- Explain a process
- Explore a topic
- And more
One of several methods

**Easier**

**More focus on the “maps”**
Example Tour
My Example

I used Tour Builder to create a “Lit Trip” for *Into the Wild*.

A “Lit Trip” tells the events of a story by visiting each location from the book, providing details and background, resources, and questions.

Into the Wild Example Tour
Making Tours with Tour Builder
Create a Tour

- Go to the Tour Builder website: http://tourbuilder.withgoogle.com
- Click the “Sign In” button
- Click “Create a Tour” button
Create a Tour

- Give it a **Tour Name**
- Enter your **Author Name** (optional)
- Click **Create Tour**
Introduction Slide

- Tour Name
- Author Name
- Introductory Picture
- Intro or summary - set the stage
- Set the type of story
  - Hub - goes from a central hub
  - “Story” - connect places w/ lines
  - Disabled - no lines
Adding Locations

- Click "Add Location"
- Search for address
- Click "Drop Placemark"
- Click "Add to tour"
Edit a Location

Customize View - You can use the map tools to move around the map view, move the pin, zoom in and out, switch from 2D to 3D view, and rotate the map.
Edit a Location

Location Name - You can change this from the search result if you have a more appropriate name.
Edit a Location

**Date Range** - You can set a start date and an end date if there are specific dates associated with this location.
Edit a Location

**Introduction (What It’s About?)** - You can add text to provide background or insight, share resources and links, ask questions, and more. There are limited formatting options.

HINT: You can paste images into this box. (Right click or CTL+V)
Edit a Location

Location Icon - You can choose from a range of icons for your location.
Edit a Location

**Street View** - Some locations let you switch to “street view”

- Drag the pegman icon onto the map to enter street view
- It mostly covers street views, but Google is expanding to popular places beyond the road such as college campuses, landmarks, and popular trails.
Edit a Location

Introduction (What It’s About?) -

HINT: You can **paste** images into the box. (Right click or CTL+V)

OR

You can prepare your text and pictures using [a template](#) and copy and paste from there
Sharing your Tour
Sharing a Tour

You can share Tours with others for viewing, but not for collaborative editing.

Click the “Share” button in the top right.
Sharing with Specific People

To share with specific people, put their email address in the “Invite people” box. Then click “Done”
Sharing with Specific People

Invited people will get this message in their email.
Sharing with a Link

To share with anyone, click “Change” and choose “Anyone who has the link”

Then click “Done”

Now you can share the link however you want.
Playing Tours
Playing in Tour Builder

Tours can be played **inside of Tour Builder**.

This is beneficial if Google Earth is not available to your students

- Open a Tour from “My Tours’ or from a shared link
- Click “Next to move through locations
- Scroll through images and videos
- Read text and click links
Playing in Google Earth

Tours can also be opened in Google Earth for a different experience.

- Click the menu button in the top right after opening a tour.
- Choose “Open in Earth”.
- Google Earth will launch in your browser and load the Tour.
More Examples
Tour Builder Examples

- Autobiography - Service to scholarship
- Art - Life of Kandinsky
- History/SS - Tour Ancient Egypt
- History/SS - The American Revolution
- As a component to a digital breakout - Super Sleuth
- Science Ideas- locate biomes, point out examples of energy resources (i.e. hydro plant, solar field, nuke plant), animal habitats, significant scientists’ birth places
Tour Builder Examples

- Grade K - 3D Shapes in the real world
- Grade 1 - Make way for ducklings tour
- Grade 2 - Animal Habitats
- Grade 3 - Holidays around the world
- Grade 4 - US landmarks tour
- Grade 5 - American revolution tour
- Student created example (5th grader) - My Trip

Thanks to @ericcurts and @i_am_mays for most of these examples