

ArcGIS Storymap documentation

ArcGIS story map is a web-based application on the ArcGIS platform, which allows the sharing of maps created on the platform accompanied by narrative text and other multimedia content (mostly images and videos).

SLU ITS can get you a license to the institutional ArcGIS version, if you want such an account please contact the library or ITS and they will create a login for you.

To get started one needs an ArcGIS account, there are institutional accounts with more options, however, to get started the public free account should have most features. The final story map can be published and shared.

Create a public account with limited access using an ArcGIS login

An ArcGIS public account is a free account that is available for individuals to create and share content with limits on usage. Follow the steps below to create an ArcGIS public account using an ArcGIS login:

1. From the website, click the **Sign In** link at the top of the site or access the sign in page directly from <https://www.arcgis.com/home/signin.html>.
2. Click **Create an account**.
3. Under **Create a free public account**, click **Create an ArcGIS Public Account**.
4. Type your first name, last name, and email address. Confirm your email address and click **Next**.

ArcGIS Online sends you an email with a link to continue the creation of your account.

5. Open the email and click the link provided, or copy it to your browser's address bar and press Enter.
6. Provide a user name that contains 6 to 128 alphanumeric characters. You can also use the following special characters: . (dot), _ (underscore), - (hyphen), and @ (at sign). Other special characters, nonalphanumeric characters, and spaces are not allowed. Your user name cannot be the same as your password.

Note:

The following characters are not allowed at the beginning or end of your user name: .(dot), - (hyphen), and @ (at sign).

7. Provide a password that contains at least eight characters and at least one letter and one number. Your password is case sensitive. Your password cannot be the same as your user name.

Note:

Weak passwords won't be accepted. A password is considered weak if it's a commonly used password such as password1 or includes repetitive or sequential characters—for example, aaaabbbb or 1234abcd.

8. Retype your password to confirm.
9. Select a security question and type an answer. This information is used to verify your identity in the event you forget your password.
10. Read the ArcGIS Online Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Check the boxes to agree to the terms and policy.
11. Click **Create Account**.

You are automatically signed in to the website.

Go to <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories> to create stories and maps. Log in with your account and click on +New Map, there are options for “Start from Scratch,” “Sidecar,” and “Guided Tour,” depending on the intent of the story map.

The sidecar option is useful for data that might stretch over years or regions etc. This allows for different slides in each category. The slides in each section could be: one containing the original document, accompanying videos, or images. Or a map containing the data, i.e. what we can learn from the data when laid out on a map. The “Start from Scratch” options might also be a good option as it lets you configure each block, instead of being confined by story plus slides. The “Guided Tour” option does exactly what the name implies, it allows you to create a story with points that viewers can follow.

New slides in the story can be added with the plus sign, in the slide one can either add an image or video or a map.

When clicking on the map options, there is the possibility to add an express map in the right top corner. There are options for pins and numbers which can be labeled, there are arrow options and text options. This is the easiest way to create a map and might be a possible assignment for graduate classes. However, ArcGIS online maps can be imported into the story map.

The ArcGIS online maps are more complicated but allow layers that can be added, more pins with different colors and different base maps. To make even more sophisticated maps that require the importing of datasets, a professional license is necessary.

The final story map can be published and shared via a link.