

Creating an ArcGIS StoryMap - Geocaching

This guide is accompanied by the prepared images, narrative text and links provided from <https://github.com/BrockDSL/StoryMaps> Download and unzip the folder containing the story map elements (ArcGIS-StoryMaps.zip) before beginning. Each STEP below correlates to the STEP listed in the **Geocaching Story Map Details.docx** file. **OPEN the DETAILS file and keep it open for this tutorial.**

- Using Google Chrome (or another Internet browser), go to <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories>
- Sign in using your Brock University credentials as described in the first part of this video:
<https://youtu.be/GqH4UHTUf2s>
- Click + **New Story** > **Start from scratch**

STEP ONE:

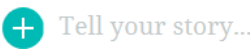
- Enter a **title**: GEOCACHING
- Enter a **subtitle**: (GEE-OH-CASH-ING)
- Add cover image. Navigate to [geocaching-title-page.jpg](#)
- Click Design, then click FULL for the Cover settings

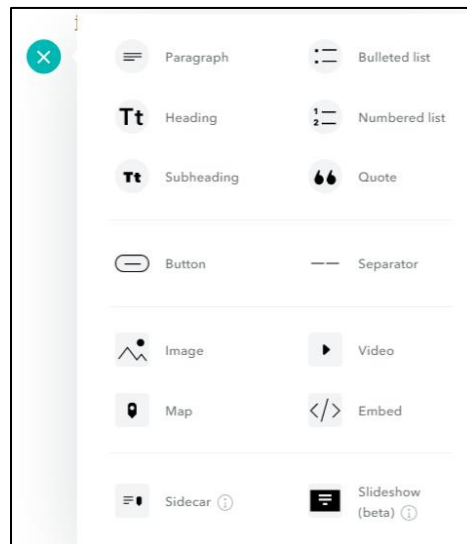
Cover



- Shift the title down by clicking the double arrows



- Scroll down and start to tell your story...
- Click the plus sign to see the components available to add to your story. 



STEP TWO:

8. Click Text and enter the quote: “The sport where YOU are the search engine!”
9. Highlight the text and from the paragraph dropdown, select Quote.

The Sport where YOU are the search engine!

STEP THREE:

10. Now add a Heading: What is geocaching?
11. Now add a Paragraph describing geocaching:



Geocaching is a GPS-enabled treasure hunt played in over 190 countries across the world. In this game, outdoor enthusiasts follow GPS coordinates to explore new locations and find caches hidden by fellow geo-explorers in public spaces. If you find a cache, sign the log book, take a piece of the treasure, leave a piece of treasure then go home and post your experience on <http://www.geocaching.com>!!

12. Notice that the URL in the above paragraph is automatically made into a hyperlink.

STEP FOUR:

13. To add a video, click  Video
14. Click Link and paste the video link “ <https://www.youtube.com/embed/vuFiLhhCNww> ”

STEP FIVE:

15. To add an image, click 
16. Browse to [GPS.jpg](#) and position it as float 
17. Click the space beside the image (Continue your story...) and add a heading “What is GPS?”
18. Hit Enter and copy the paragraph text:

GPS stands for Global Positioning System. This system represents a constellation of 30 satellites operated by the U.S. Department of Defense. These satellites travel in controlled orbits approximately 20,000 kilometres above the earth’s surface, making two complete rotations every day. The orbits are arranged so that at anytime, anywhere on Earth, there are at least four satellites “visible” in the sky.

Each satellite transmits a complex radio signal including an extremely accurate time signal. Using a GPS receiver (from recreational devices to survey-grade instruments) satellite radio signals are received and simple trigonometry calculations determine a precise position on the earth's surface. A minimum of 3 satellite signals is required but most GPS units can access up to 12 or more for increased accuracy.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Positioning_System)

The result will look something like this:



GPS Navigation Satellite Schematic

What is GPS?

GPS stands for Global Positioning System. This system represents a constellation of 30 satellites operated by the U.S. Department of Defense. These satellites travel in controlled orbits approximately 20,000 kilometres above the earth's surface, making two complete rotations every day. The orbits are arranged so that at anytime, anywhere on Earth, there are at least four satellites "visible" in the sky. Each satellite transmits a complex radio signal including an extremely accurate time signal. Using a GPS receiver (from recreational

devices to survey-grade instruments) satellite radio signals are received and simple trigonometry calculations determine a precise position on the earth's surface. A minimum of 3 satellite signals is required but most GPS units can access up to 12 or more for increased accuracy.


STEP SIX:

19. Insert a heading: "What does a geocache look like?"

20. Add paragraph text:

Traditional geocaches require some sort of container for placing a logbook and/or various treasures for swapping. The original cache container mimicked the iconic metal ammo can but after nearly two decades of geocaching, all manner of container can be found!



21. Embed content by clicking  Embed. The result will be a 'card' describing the embedded content.

<https://www.geocaching.com/blog/2019/11/the-evolution-of-geocaches/>

The evolution of geocaches

For most, the evolution of the geocache container begins with the iconic metal ammo can. But in nearly two decades of geocaching, the geocache...

<https://www.geocaching.com>



22. Alternately, add an image: Browse to [cache-containers.jpg](#) and add a caption describing the containers

Spider "Nano", Bubble Gum "Micro", Ammo box "Large", Peanut Butter Jar "Traditional"



STEP SEVEN:

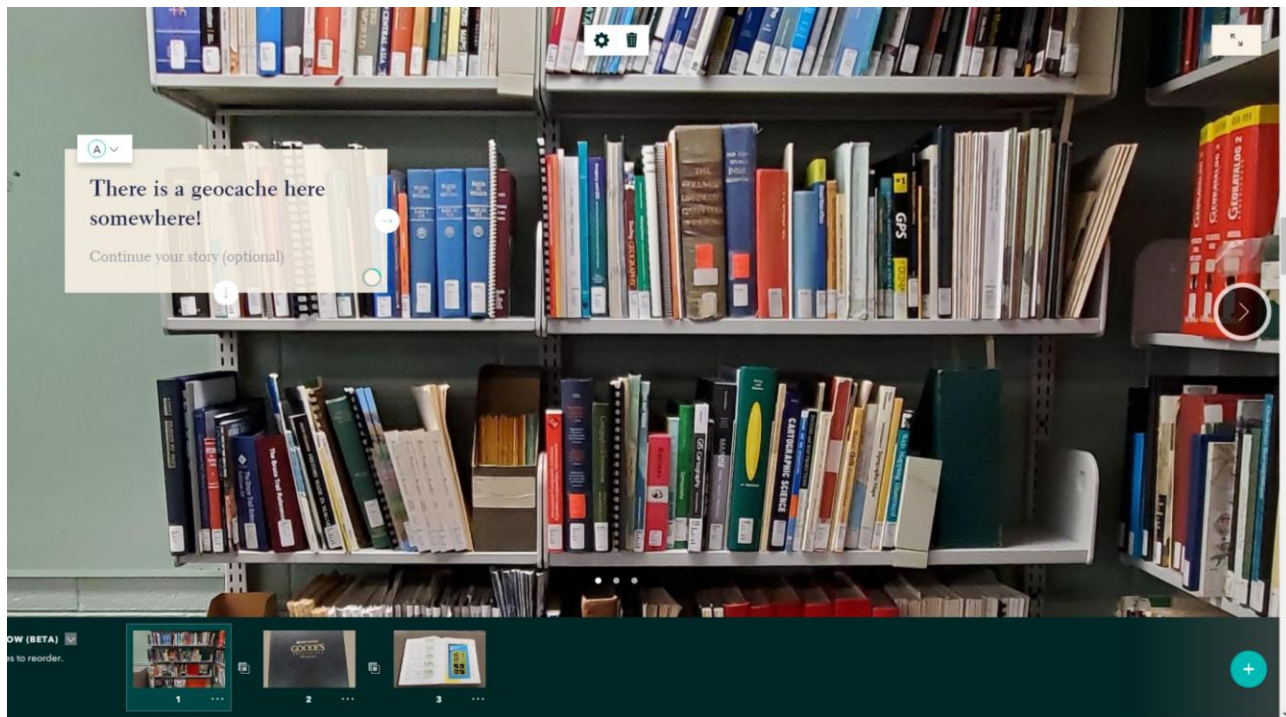
23. Insert a Slideshow (beta). Slideshow allows you to share a series of related media (images, maps, videos).

24. Add 3 slides (click the plus at the bottom right of the window).

25. For each slide, Add Media > Image (ThisIsAGeocache1.jpg, ThisIsAGeocache2.jpg, ThisIsAGeocache3.jpg)

26. Add a slide title and description as noted below:

- a. ThisIsAGeocache1.jpg "There is a geocache here somewhere!"
- b. ThisIsAGeocache2.jpg "Here it is!"
- c. ThisIsAGeocache3.jpg "Success!"



STEP EIGHT:

27. Insert a Heading: "What's in a geocache?"

28. Add paragraph text:

Each cache should contain a log book for you to sign and date. Depending on the size or type of cache, you may also find small trinkets to trade, instructions for another cache or maybe even a 'travel bug'!


29. Add image ([cache-prizes.jpg](#))



STEP NINE:




Sidecar

30. Insert a . This element uses a large media display on the right with narrative text and media available on the left (known as the 'sidecar').

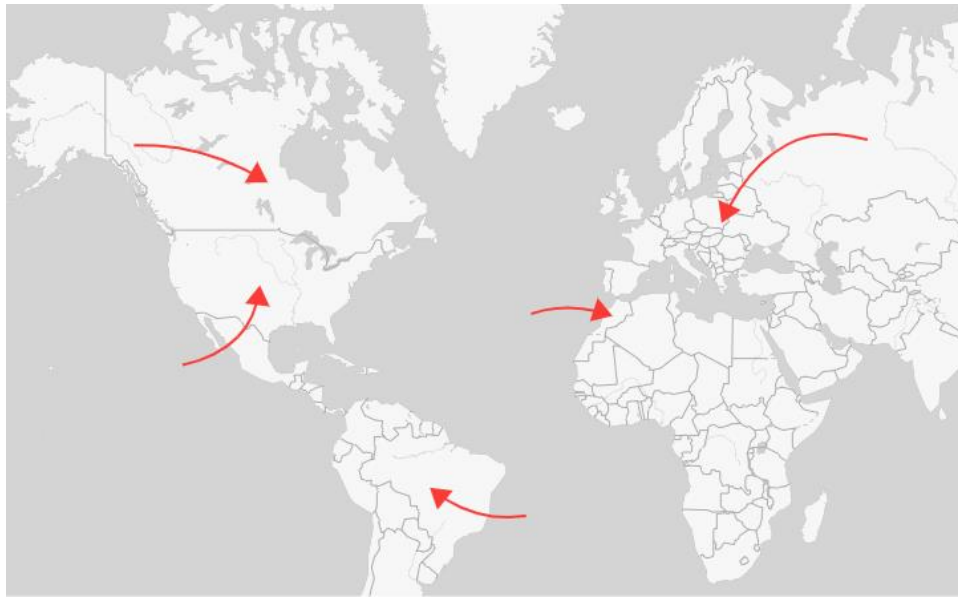
31. Add a Heading on the left: "Travel Bugs" with the following paragraph text describing travel bugs:

Travel Bugs are items that have been tagged with a unique code (similar to 'dog tags') and given a purpose. For example, a travel might include a stuffy that wants to travel across Canada by all manner of transportation. If a geocacher grabs a Travel Bug they are agreeing to move the item along to another geocache taking it one step closer to its goal.

32. Add an image to the sidecar ([travel-bugs.jpg](#)).

33. For the media display on the right, insert media > map. Click . Express Maps are created on-the-fly within the story map environment.

34. You can add graphics to the map to highlight certain features. Draw an arrow over each continent since travel bugs go everywhere!



35. Now use the place search tool at the top right of the map to search for **Wilberforce, Highlands East, Ontario**. This village is known as the geocaching capital of Canada. Select the appropriate result. The map zooms to Wilberforce.
36. Click **Add to map** to add a placemark at this location.
37. Details for the placemark appear to the left of the map window. Add an image ([Wilberforce.jpg](#)).
38. Update the description to read “Geocaching Capital of Canada”. Highlight the text and add a link <https://www.geocachingcapitalofcanada.com/> Hit ENTER to apply the link.



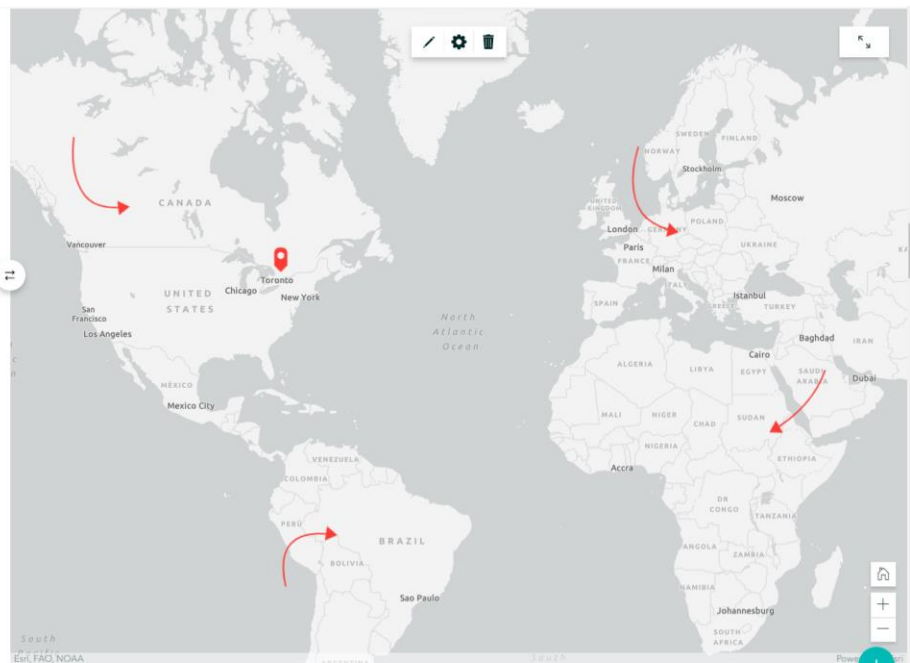
39. Click **Done**.
40. Zoom out to see the whole world.
41. Click **Done** at the bottom right of the window.

Travel Bugs

Travel Bugs are items that have been tagged with a unique code (similar to 'dog tags') and given a purpose. For example, a travel might include a stuffy that wants to travel across Canada by all manner of transportation. If a geocacher grabs a Travel Bug they are agreeing to move the item along to another geocache taking it one step closer to its goal.



Add a caption for this image (optional)



STEP TEN:

42. Insert a heading: "Let's play!"
43. Insert embed: copy and paste the URL <https://www.geocaching.com/play> to create a card that users can click to access the official geocaching website.
44. Insert **Buttons** for the app stores:

Google Play Store

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.groundspeak.geocaching.intro&referrer=utm_source%3Dgeocaching-website%26utm_campaign%3DQ1-2018-update-logged-out-home-page

Apple App Store

<https://itunes.apple.com/app/apple-store/id329541503?pt=61076&ct=Q1-2018-update-logged-out-home-page&mt=8>

STEP ELEVEN:

45. Insert a heading: "Sources"
46. In a Paragraph section, copy and paste the list of sources:
 1. The Evolution of Geocaches [blog post]. (November 19, 2019). Retrieved January 20, 2020 from <https://www.geocaching.com/blog/2019/11/the-evolution-of-geocaches/>
 2. X Marks the Spot: What is geocaching and how does it work [blog post]. (December 12, 2018). Retrieved January 20, 2020 from <https://mapscaping.com/blogs/geo-candy/what-is-geocaching-how-does-it-work>
 3. GEOCACHING [website]. (copyright 2000-2019). Retrieved January 20, 2020 from <https://www.geocaching.com>
 4. Global Positioning Systems [website]. (November 25, 2019). Retrieved January 20, 2020 from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Positioning_System
 5. A struggling town is reviving itself with... Geocaching [website]. (March 30, 2018). Retrieved January 20, 2020 from https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/qvqvq5/wilberforce-canada-stuggling-town-geocaching-capital
 6. Getting Started with ArcGIS StoryMaps [website]. (October 30, 2019). Retrieved January 20, 2020 from <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/cea22a609a1d4cccb8d54c650b595bc4>

7. ArcGIS StoryMaps Frequently Asked Questions [website]. Retrieved January 20, 2020 from <https://doc.arcgis.com/en/arcgis-storymaps/get-started/faq.htm>

STEP TWELVE:

47. Insert image ([Brock-Aerial.jpg](#))
48. Set it to medium width.
49. Add a caption "Oh the places you'll go with geocaching!"

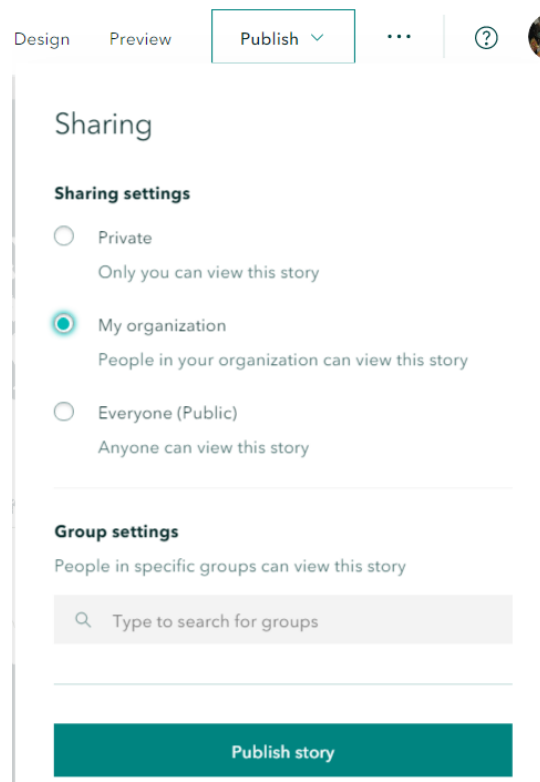
STEP THIRTEEN:

50. To tweak the design settings for the entire story, click the **Design** button at the top of the window.
51. In the 'customize' section of the design panel you can change the accent colour, font pairings and add a logo ([brocku-logo.png](#))
52. Toggle the Navigation on. This will create a navigation bar that persists throughout the story.
53. Toggle the Credits off. The credits option offers one way of adding sources to your storymap.

STEP FOURTEEN:

As you work to develop your story map, the interface automatically saves your changes to the ArcGIS Online cloud. You can click the *Preview* button at the top to see how your app will look on desktop, tablet or smartphone devices.

54. When you are satisfied, click Publish to finish the story map process. You will notice the "checking for issues" window. When prompted, choose a sharing option (My Organization) and click Publish Story.



55. To share your story map with friends, click the sharing options at the top right of the window



STEP FIFTEEN:

To access your stories in the future, go to <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories> and sign in using the same credentials you used to create the story map. You will see all your authored stories listed here.

STEP SIXTEEN: Continue Learning

- Story Maps Overview <https://bit.ly/2MRMQ7w>
- Getting Started with StoryMaps <https://bit.ly/2MTQ36F>
- Digital Mapping Workshop <https://bit.ly/38lkDZv>
- Explore Stories (examples) <https://bit.ly/3882V1T>
- Qualitative Research Café <https://bit.ly/367v6fs>
- Putting Your Research on the Map <https://bit.ly/2RrxWb9>
- Classic Story Map Templates <https://bit.ly/33Z7Hf2>
- Contact us maplib@brocku.ca or sjanzen@brocku.ca