# Google Earth Activity Notes

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ToC:

[Google Earth Activity Notes](#_q1qh4t3l5vro)

## Google Earth Pollution Data Instructions

**The original activity will not work because the data download links are broken.** <https://www3.epa.gov/air/emissions/where.htm> is a page on the old EPA website. When the website was updated, this page (and its functionality) was lost

Another version of the old instructions can be found in this pdf: <https://www3.epa.gov/ttnchie1/conference/ei16/session13/mintz.pdf>

There are other ways to visualize some aspects of air quality through the EPA resources

1. This map shows the locations of the air quality monitoring stations for the EPA’s data: <https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=5f239fd3e72f424f98ef3d5def547eb5&extent=-146.2334,13.1913,-46.3896,56.5319>
2. Concentration maps can be created here (along with several others in the sidebar), but they do not give quantitative information <https://www.epa.gov/outdoor-air-quality-data/air-data-concentration-map>
3. AQS - the Air Quality System - is the EPA’s pollution monitoring data collectors <https://www.epa.gov/aqs> The data has its own API, and the data is quite comprehensive and indicates that it would show both pollution and meteorological data <https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/documents/data_api.html>
   1. Example files can be downloaded from here: <https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/airdata/download_files.html#Raw>
4. AirNow shows the air quality index for various areas in the US <https://www.airnow.gov/?city=Hanover&state=NH&country=USA> There are some AQI data on AirNow for the US Embassies in other countries, but none for Germany
5. Recent projects (EDF) have used air quality data in conjunction with google maps to better visualize problematic areas, but obviously this is highly localized, irrelevant to our project, and already completed, effectively: <https://www.edf.org/airqualitymaps/oakland/mapping-pollution>
6. In some senses, the IQAir map we found before kind of covers this, but not in as much detail as GEarth promised: <https://www.iqair.com/air-quality-map>

**To remake the activity from intent:**

If we can find data, the way to do it is to first download Google Earth Pro (the desktop version of Google Earth, free): <https://www.google.com/earth/versions/>

Then, import a CSV containing lat/long coordinates and change the settings as described here: <https://support.google.com/earth/answer/176685?hl=en&ref_topic=7184262#zippy=>

This of course only works with working data, which is the main problem since the old data can’t be downloaded anymore.

* Perhaps this will work? It looks like it runs on an engine similar to but not quite Google Earth <https://developers.google.com/earth-engine/datasets/tags/pollution> (I put in an application to get access to earth engine and it got approved so I think we can try it out)
  + This coding is very complicated and I can’t make sense of it, but would be willing to learn if this is highly desired.
* This is only Air Toxics data? <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-04/documents/instructions_google_earth.pdf>