

Refine your ArcGIS StoryMaps story

Your ArcGIS StoryMaps story about Yellowstone Lake is taking shape. In this exercise, you will further adjust and refine your story with additional images and credits before previewing it.



Note: This exercise builds on previous exercise results. If necessary, complete the *Create a story using ArcGIS StoryMaps* exercise before continuing.

Estimated completion time in minutes: 20

To complete exercises, you need the following:

- ArcGIS Online Organizational Account
 - User role or [equivalent](#)

① Add images

You will continue building your story about Yellowstone Lake by adding headings and including supporting text and images to showcase the seasonal beauty of the lake.

- Ⓐ Restore your Yellowstone Lake story, if necessary.



Note: If you closed the ArcGIS StoryMaps story builder after the previous exercise, perform the following steps:

1. Go to storymaps.arcgis.com.
2. Sign in with your ArcGIS Online username and password.
3. Under My Stories, open the draft version of your Yellowstone Lake story.

- Ⓑ Below the map, click the Add Content Block button and choose Text.
- Ⓒ Next to Paragraph, click the down arrow and choose Heading 1, as indicated in the following graphic.

- d For the heading, type **Spring**.
- e Copy the following Section 2 text.

Section 2

As the quiet of winter fades, springtime around Yellowstone Lake is a time of awakening. As the roads and trails begin to open to the public, wildlife also become more active. As a thunderstorm rolls over the lake, it is truly a season of new beginnings.

Below the heading, click the Add Content Block button, choose Text, and paste the text into the story as a paragraph.

Hint: If the text looks messy after you paste it into your story, try editing the way the text continues to the next line.

- f Below the Section 2 text, click the Add Content Block button and choose Image.
- g Browse to the `..\TellingStoriesWithMaps\YellowstoneLake` folder, and then select the Spring.jpg image.
- h At the bottom of the Add An Image window, click Add.
- i If you would like, add a caption to the image.

[View result →](#)

Step 1i: Add images.

- j Below the image that you added for Spring, repeat the previous process to add headings, text, and images for Summer, Fall, and Winter by using the information provided in the following table.

Heading	Text	Image
Summer	Summer provides long daylight hours to explore the lake and surrounding areas. The	Summer.jpg

	beautiful blue skies and warm temperatures make for the best conditions to see the colorful geothermal features. A sunny, warm summer day gives way to stark contrasts of the deep blue water and the colorful shoreline.	
Fall	With still some mild weather hanging on from summer, fall brings beautiful colors. As the activities of summer start winding down, wildlife can be seen and heard preparing for what is ahead. It is not uncommon to see the results of an early snowfall in the higher elevations against the golden grasses found around the lake's edge.	Fall.jpg
Winter	While travel and accommodations are limited in winter, it is a pristine time of the year to visit. The sheer calm and silence of the area is refreshing. The West Thumb Geyser Basin produces a warmth among the stillness of the long, cold winter months.	Winter.jpg

Finally, you will end the story by adding another heading and the Section 6 text.

- k** Below your last image, click the Add Content Block button, choose Text, and add a heading of your choice, such as **Beautiful place to see during all seasons.**
- l** Below the heading, click the Add Content Block button, choose Text, and paste the following text from Section 6 into the story as a paragraph.

Section 6

Since March 1, 1872, Yellowstone National Park has been a destination for millions of people to enjoy. Yellowstone Lake, with a surface area of 132 square miles, leaves a large footprint in the park. Many visitors enjoy the serene settings that the lake provides. In addition to many scenic views above the surface, underwater geysers, hot springs, and deep canyons are also found along the bottom, making Yellowstone Lake truly one of a kind!

Now that your story includes content for all the seasons, you will add a credits section.

② Add a credits section

You will give credit to the sources and organizations included in your story.

- ① a Scroll to the bottom of the story builder and locate the credits section.

[View result →](#)

Step 2a: Add a credits section.

- ① b For Add A Credits Heading, type **Credits**.
- ① c Copy the following text, and then paste it into the description section underneath the Credits heading.

Credits

These maps use either Esri data or data that you have permission to use. To learn more about Yellowstone National Park, click here.

Copy the following URL:

- <https://www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm>

- ① d In the story's credits description, highlight **click here**.
- ① e Click the Link button and choose Web Page.
- ① f Paste the URL that you copied into the space provided, and then click Apply.

If you wanted to credit specific organizations or individuals for contributing to your story, you could type that information into the Content and Attribution sections.

You have further refined the draft of your story. Before sharing your story, it is a good idea to preview and test it.

③ Preview your story

You will preview your story to see how it will look when viewed on a phone.

- ①a At the top of the story builder, click Preview.
- ①b If a pop-up appears indicating that preview will reset undo history, click Yes, Continue.
- ①c At the bottom-right of the story builder, click the Preview On Phone button , as shown in the following graphic.

Now you can explore and test the content in your story.

- ①d Scroll to the express map and click the map to expand it.
- ①e Click one of the points displayed in the map.

Information about the point is displayed in the preview.

- ①f Click the Exit Full Screen Mode button to minimize the map.
- ①g Below the phone preview, click the Rotate button to see how the story will appear in landscape mode.
- ①h After you are finished, click the Preview Full Screen button , as shown in the following graphic.
- ①i Click the Close Preview button to exit preview mode and return to the story builder.

After previewing and testing your story, you are ready to publish your story.

④ Publish your story

At the top of the story builder, a badge indicates that the story is currently in Draft status. You must publish your story to review and test it. For now, you will choose to keep your story private (only you will be able to see it).

- ②a At the top of the story builder, click Publish to view the publishing options.

Here, you can modify the sharing options prior to publishing your story.

b In the Share pane, under Set Sharing Level, choose Private, if necessary.

c In the upper-right corner, click Publish.

Your Yellowstone Lake story has now been published.

d In the upper-right corner, click your profile icon and choose My Projects to view your stories.

e Under My Stories, notice that the story now has a Published badge instead of a Draft badge.

[View result →](#)

Step 4e: Publish your story.

At this point, you could continue to add content to your story, share it with others, or promote it on social media.

f After you are finished working with your story, click your profile icon and choose Sign Out, and then close the ArcGIS StoryMaps web browser tab or window.

You successfully applied a workflow to create and refine a story using ArcGIS StoryMaps. Telling stories that include GIS maps is an effective way to add interest and context.