

Maps and the Geospatial Revolution

Lesson 1 - Lecture 1



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The Geospatial Revolution

- ...is transforming how we do these things:
 - How we navigate
 - How we make decisions
 - How we share stories
- Maps are now interactive, and embedded in everything we do
- New technologies have made spatial information widely accessible
- New science has made it possible for us to use spatial information in new and powerful ways

How We Navigate

- Think about what kids born today can expect to have available at their fingertips
- Even in my lifetime (born in 1980), we've gone from paper maps to interactive digital maps
- The time it takes to plan a trip is completely different now
- We're already annoyed that our technology isn't always perfect (missing/incorrect data)

Making Decisions

- The Geospatial Revolution involves way more than just advances in navigation
- Even simple decisions, like "Where should we eat Dinner tonight?" are enabled by geospatial technology
- The cutting edge of tech and science in this is focused on much harder questions, like "What parts of the coast should we evacuate for this impending Hurricane?"

Sharing Stories

Geography provides the context for our personal lives

Pictures, for example, can be easily
Geotagged to make maps of your memories

 Even 10 years ago, this was a very cumbersome thing to do, and 20 years ago it was not really possible



