Story Map Journals

Story Map Journals are like other Story Maps, except that the screen is divided into two sections: the "stage" where your map is displayed; and the "panel," which can be placed along the side or can "float" over the map. The panel contains text, images, videos, and other information related to the map. You may import multiple maps, or freeze on individual points on the same map. Also, images can be linked directly from web sites; you do not have to link from a Flikr, Facebook, or Picasa site (though you may).

To create a journal, you can start just like you would for other story maps: create a base map, save it, share it, and publish it as a web application. However, when you publish it as a web application, choose "Story Map Journal" (on the previous example, you published the base map as a "Story Map Tour").

When you publish your map, you will be asked to choose your layout. The Side Panel layout places images and text on the left side of the map, while the Floating Panel layout places those features on top of the map. (Choose one now; you can change the panel location and style later.)

Next, you will be asked to set up your "main stage." The first time you do this, you are setting up a title page; you can choose a photograph, video, web site, or a map from ArcGIS (generally from the maps you have saved in your ArcGIS Online Content). You can link to images and video in Flikr, Facebook, Picasa, or YouTube. Alternatively, you may also link to photographs on the Internet by entering a valid URL.

Next, you will enter a title and subtitle for your Story Map Journal. Hit "Save" to save your information. (You may edit it at any time by clicking on the "pencil" icon.)

To add additional "slides" to your journal, click on the "Add Section" icon at the bottom of the panel.

1. Add a title for the new stage, and a map, image, video, or web page to your stage.

2. Next, click on the "side panel" to add text. Clicking on the button with images of a camera and video camera will allow you to add photographs and videos to the side panel.

3. Click "save" to save this information to your new section.

You can reorganize your sections by clicking on the "organize" button at the bottom of the panel and dragging each line to its new position.

Other Features

Near the top of the page, you can click on the "Settings" button to:

1. Format your Story Map. You can move the panel to the right side, and you can change its size as well.

2. Change the theme. This will allow you to change border and font colors.

3. Change fonts

4. Customize your header—delete the Esri logo, add your own, etc.