



Life-Long Learning Begins Here

From the Local to the Global: Geo-Inquiry

GPB Education Outreach Specialists
[@GPBEducation](#)

Michael Kuenlen
mkuenlen@gpb.org
[@mkuenlen](#)

Tracey Wiley
twiley@gpb.org
[@twileyGPB](#)

GPB Virtual Learning Journeys

<http://www.gpb.org/education/georgia-studies/virtual-field-trips>

Part of our Georgia Studies COLLECTION, these experiences include a chronological exploration of US history from a Georgia perspective.

GPB Virtual Reality [GPB Education VR | AR](#)

Our archive of virtual reality recordings including new additions to our virtual field trips and a partnership giving students access to Georgia College's recordings.

Esri Geo-Inquiries

<https://www.esri.com/en-us/industries/education/schools/geoinquiries-collections>

Map-based activities based on the inquiry model for almost any discipline.

Nat Geo: Geo-Inquiry Process

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/programs/geo-inquiry>

How to use the geographic perspective to analyze place, space, and connections.

Introduction

Geo-Inquiry is a fusion between developing the curiosity of inquiry-based learning with the depth and complexity of information available through maps and Geographic Information Systems. Together, this process builds on “carto-literacy” to create more complex understandings and inquisitive learners.

Approaches

Essential to connecting inquiry with GIS and maps is a method for structuring the process. There are a few approaches that are available from Esri and National Geographic. Here is Esri's:

ASK	geographic questions
ACQUIRE	geographic resources
EXPLORE	geographic data
ANALYZE	geographic information
ACT	on geographic knowledge

Questions should revolve around spatial relationships. That is, A Geo-Inquiry Question is a query that asks us to think about where things are and how they are connected to other things spatially.

After asking questions, the key is what information is needed and then finding relevant sources for that data. Look for patterns and relationships among the data and then apply those new understandings to your question.

To help students think more spatially, consider understanding locations first and then how that place is connected to other places. To go further, compare different places and their characteristics, those effects on nearby areas, how you might group similar characteristics, along with patterns or other patterns or associations.

Strategies

GISETC

<https://www.gisetc.com/natgeoinquiry/>

Maps, data sets, videos, and other resources from ArcGIS.

For younger learners or those that need stronger foundations, consider using strategies like a “difference,” “intersect,” or “union” activity.

For today, let’s dive into a deep exploration of the relationship between economics, politics, and geography in Antebellum Georgia.

After looking at the map of the secession vote in Georgia, what questions, based on spatial relationships, can we ask?

NH Geographic Alliance

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0BwuFGGAtVPLzejBTSUFzNEh1NUU>

Over 10 pages of resources on spatial thinking.

Going Further

Want to dive even deeper?! StoryMap JS is a program developed by Knightlab at Northwestern University. It allows students to upload pictures and text, along with a geo-tracking function, in a series of slides that tell a geo-narrative. This program could easily be constructed for geo-inquiry.

General Teaching Strategies

https://docs.google.com/document/d/152VPU9bbX2mT9MB30kQ4H_4Tor0V5PRZm3zeiqVW69Q/edit?usp=sharing

Access hundreds of micro strategies from multiple organizations to deliver engaging instruction in the classroom, be it physical or virtual.