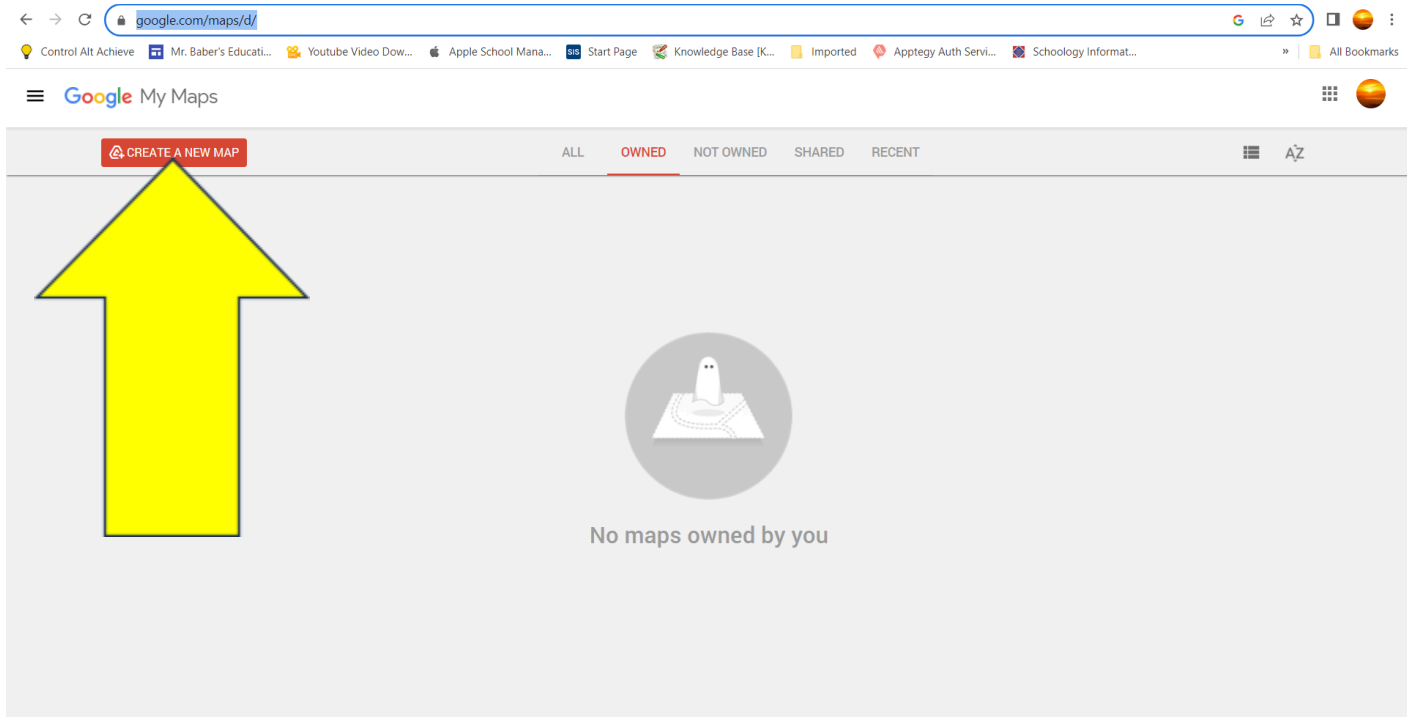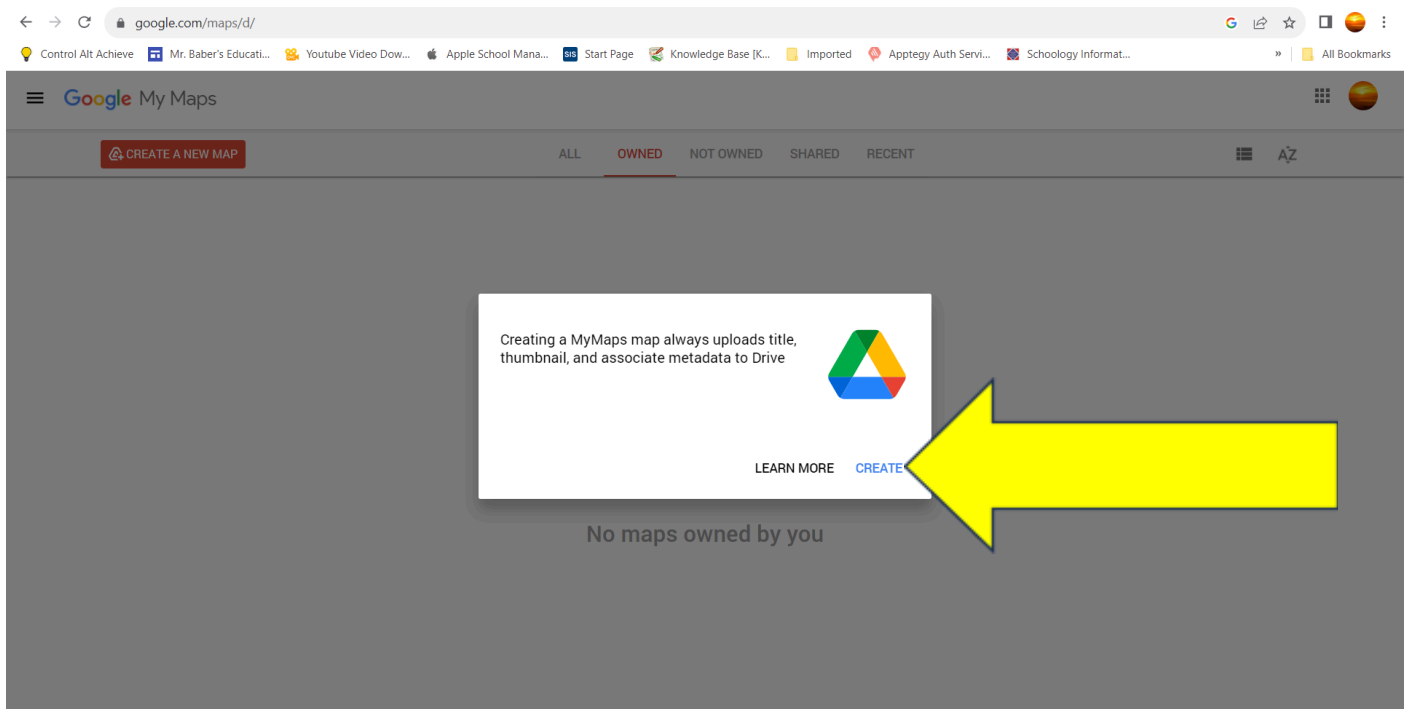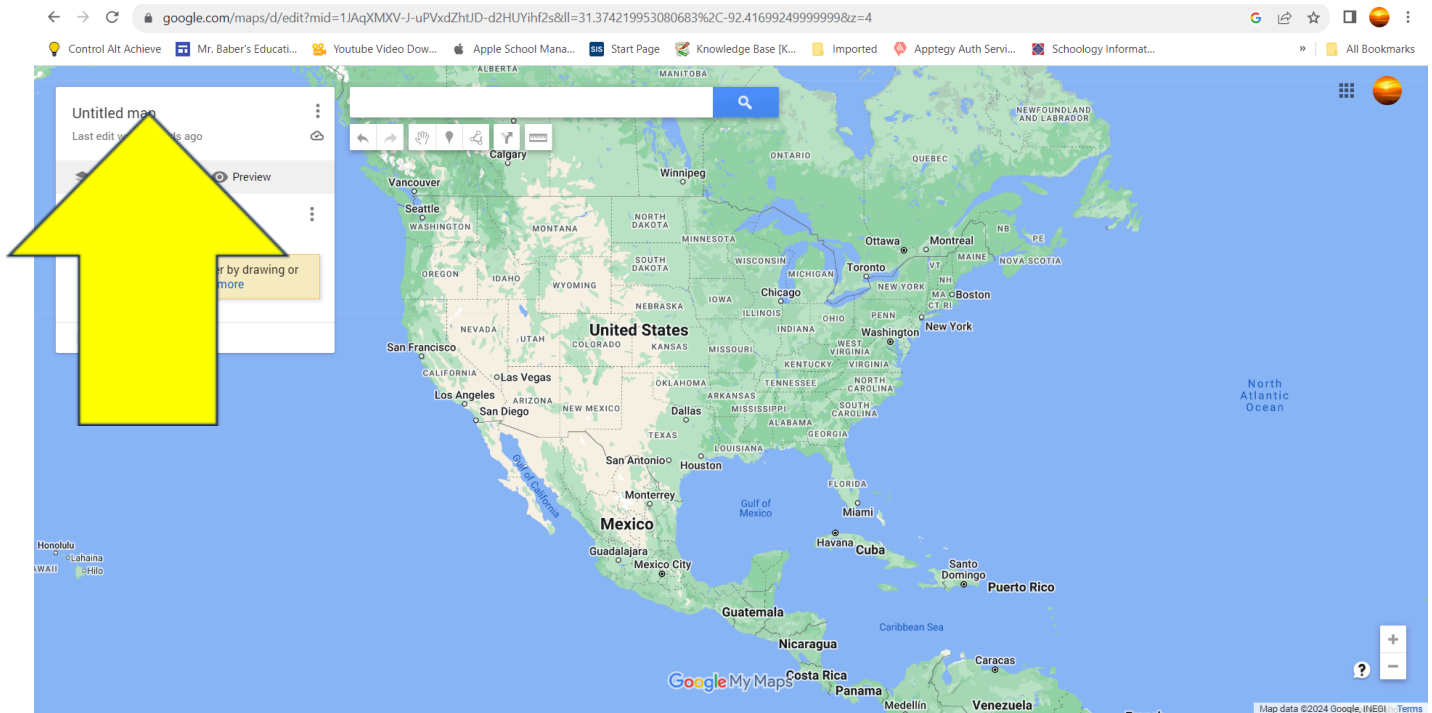# How to Create a Story Using Google My Maps:

1. If students want to save their work, they will sign into their WCS Google Account. Otherwise, they can go straight to the Google My Maps website and create their map. However, their work will not be saved.

2. Go to Google My Maps at this website: https://www.google.com/maps/d/
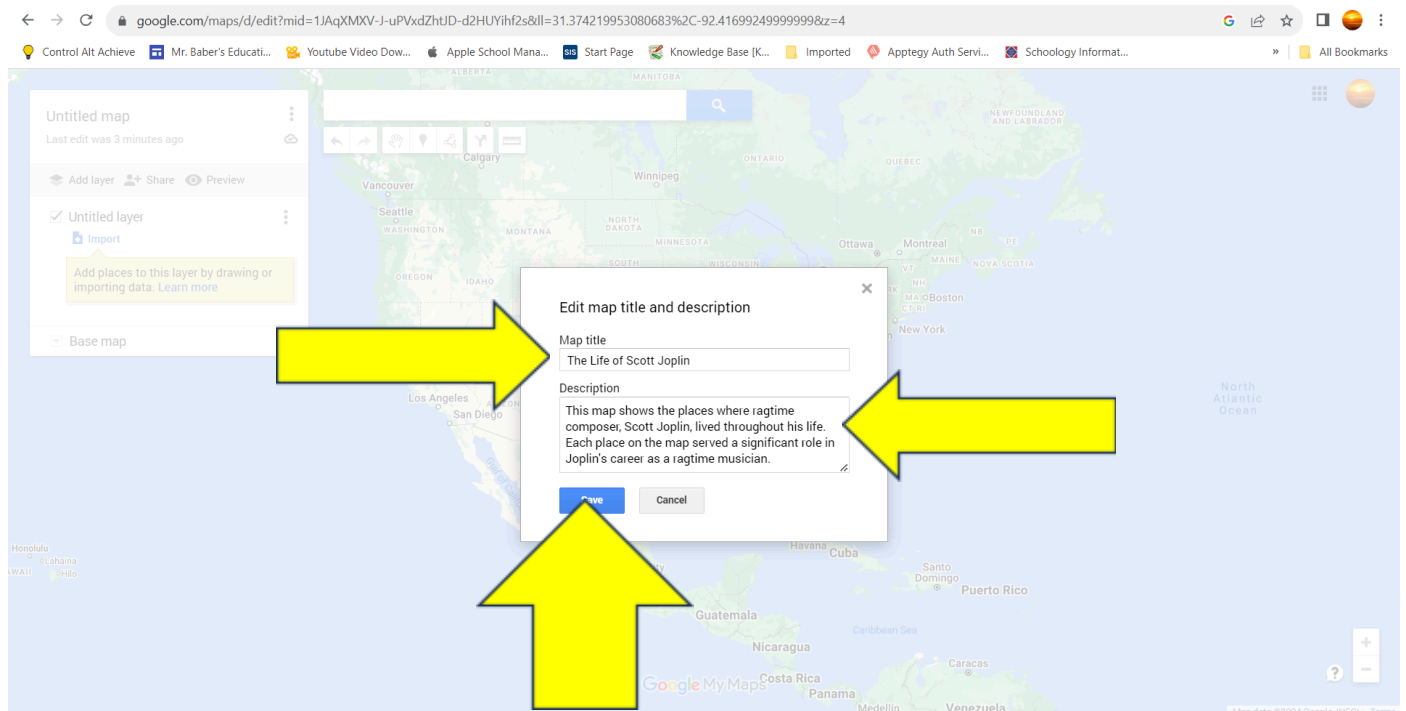
3. Click **Create a New Map.**
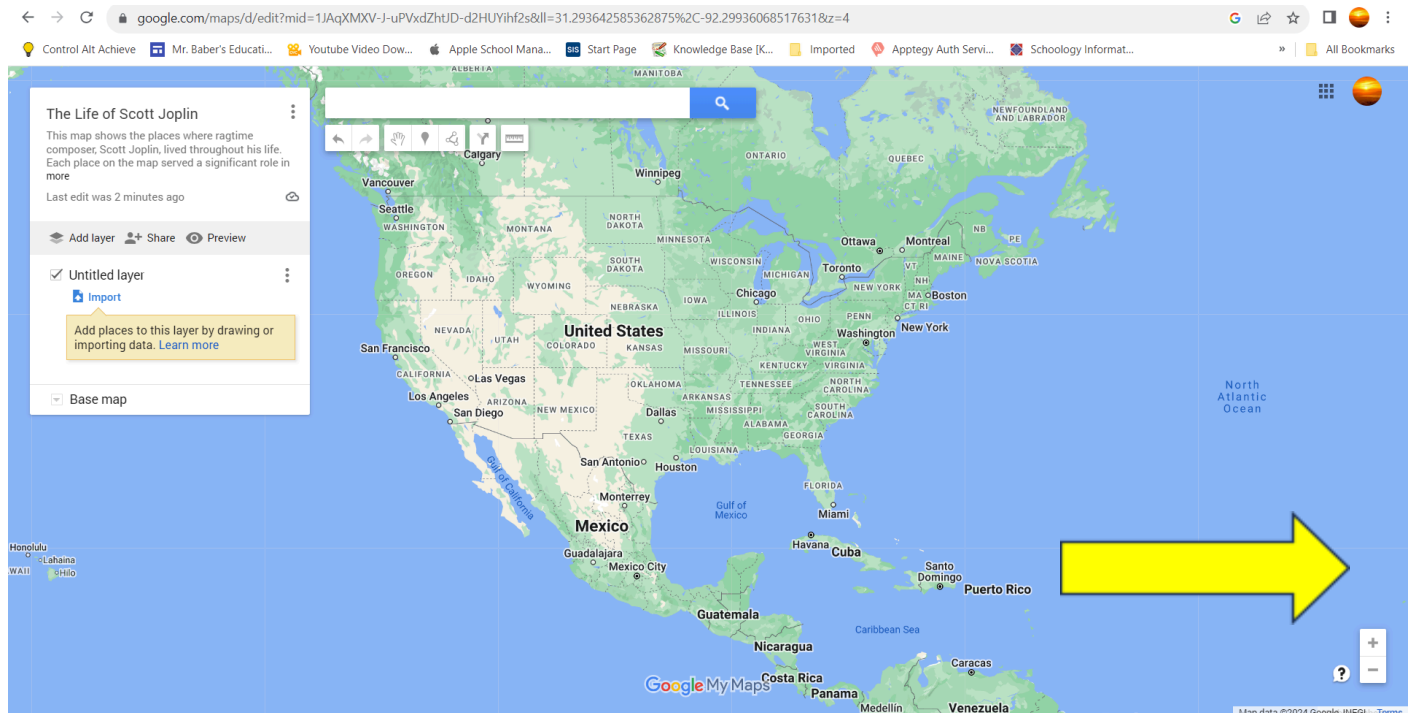

4. Click **Create.**
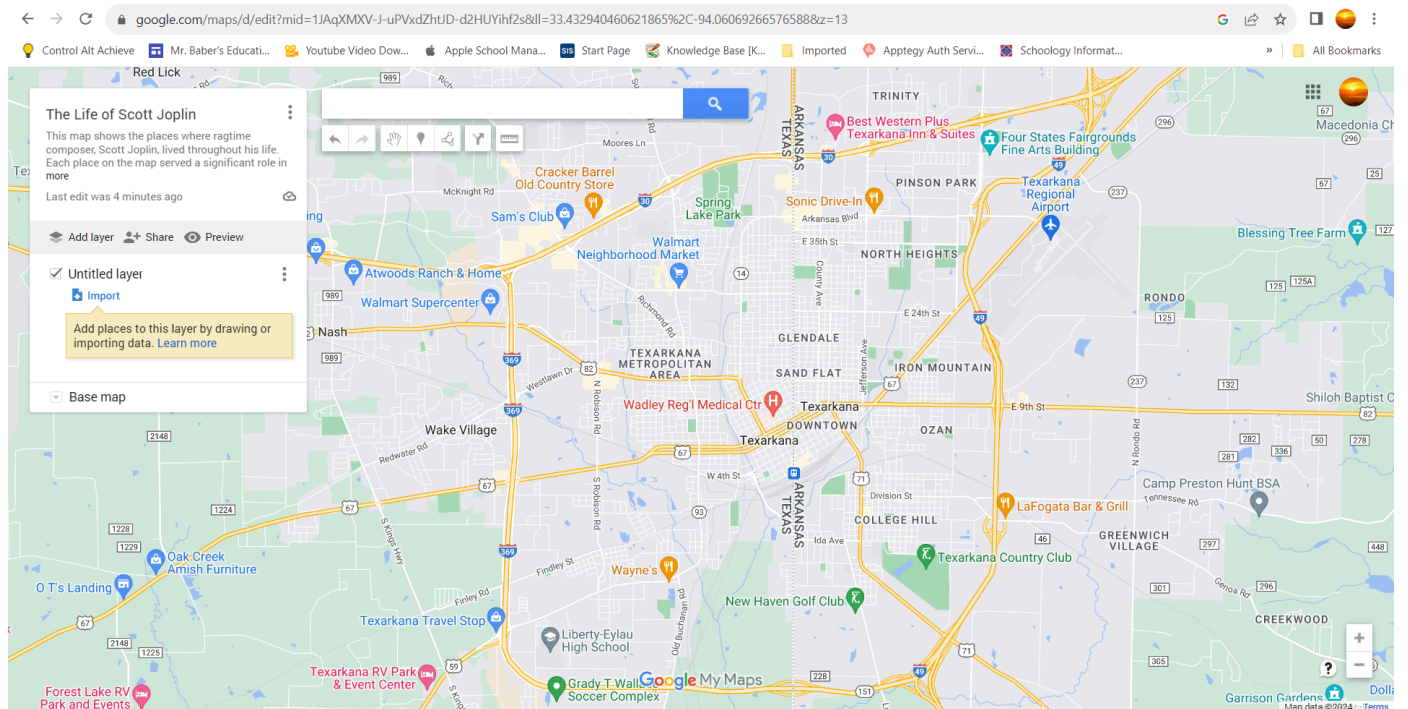
5. Click where it says **Untitled Map**.

6. Type the name of your map in the first box. Then type in a description in the second box to explain the purpose of the map. Click **Save.**
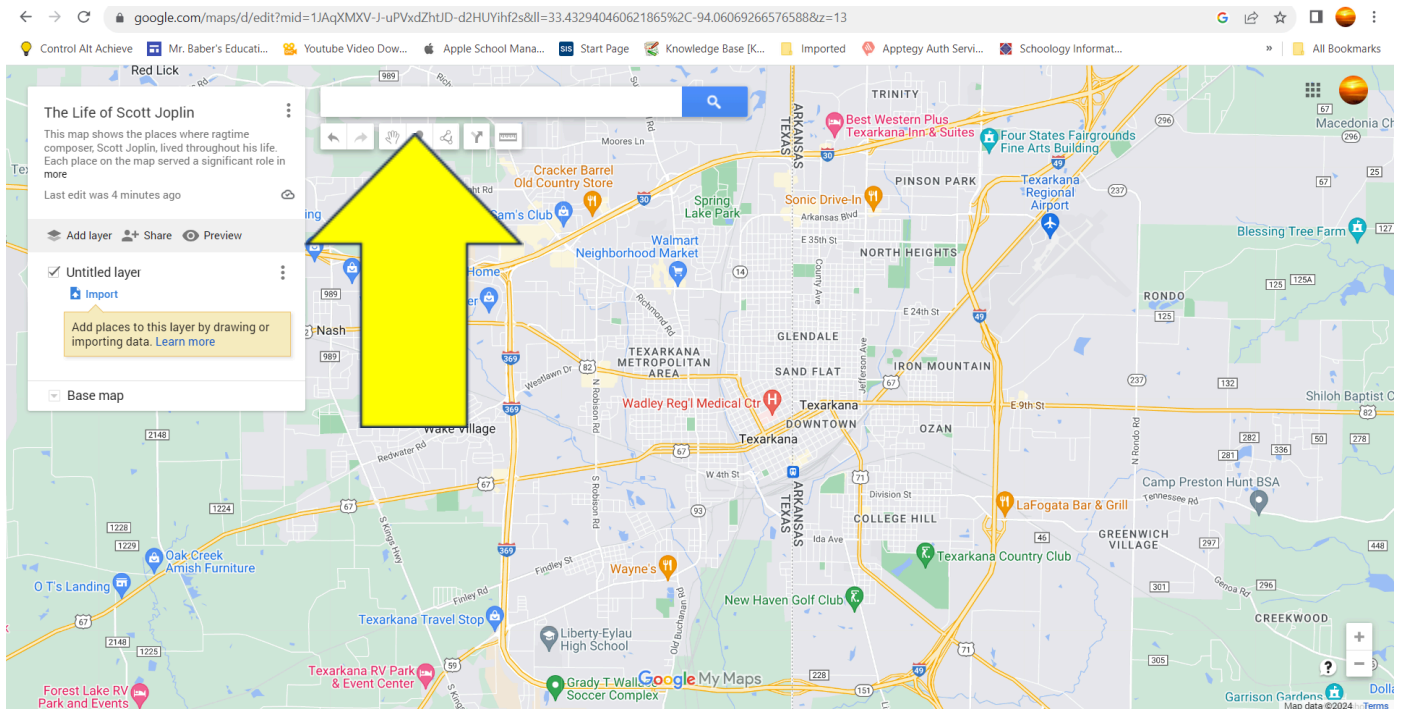
7. To start your map, you will place **markers** on the various cities, towns, or other locations that you want to include in your story. Zoom the map into the place where you want to put your first marker. You can zoom in or out by clicking the **+** or **– signs** in the lower right corner of the screen or, if you use a computer mouse, use the scroll button to zoom in and out on the map.
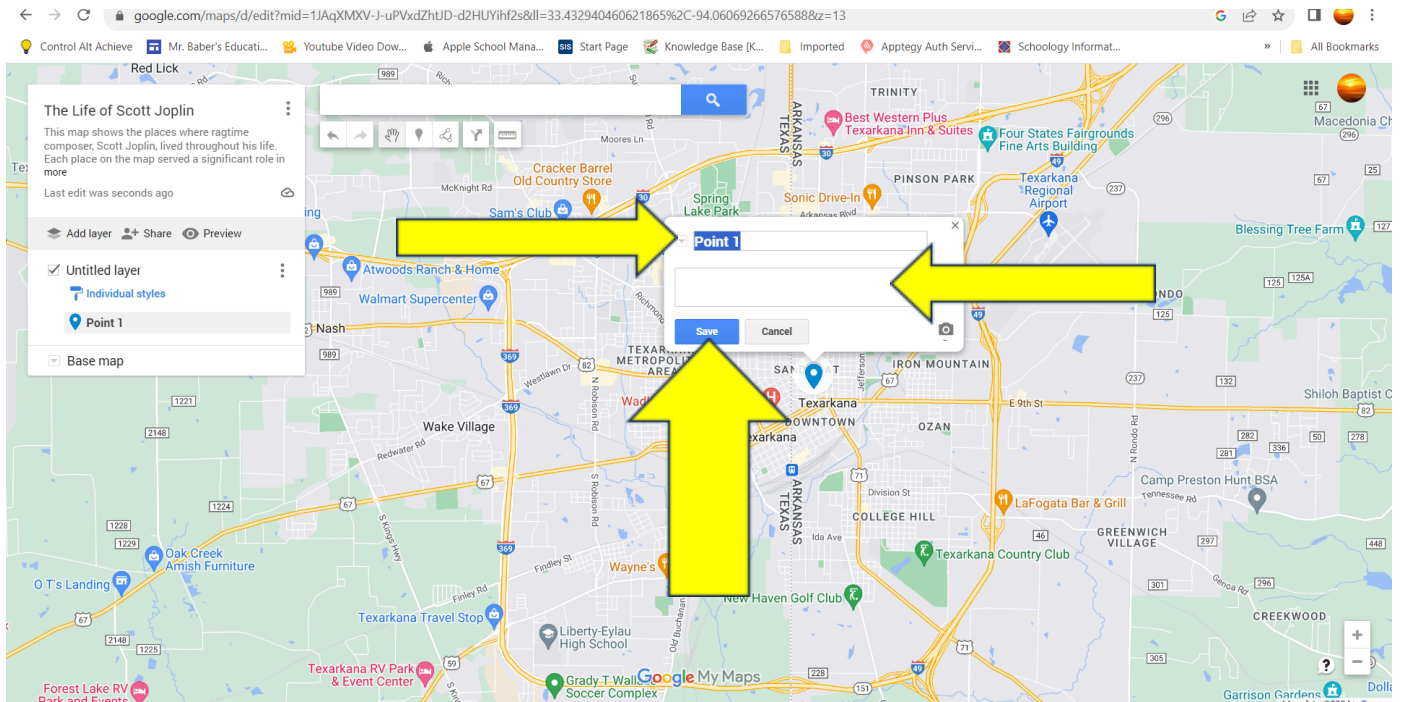

8. For our first location, we are zooming in on the city of Texarkana, Texas.
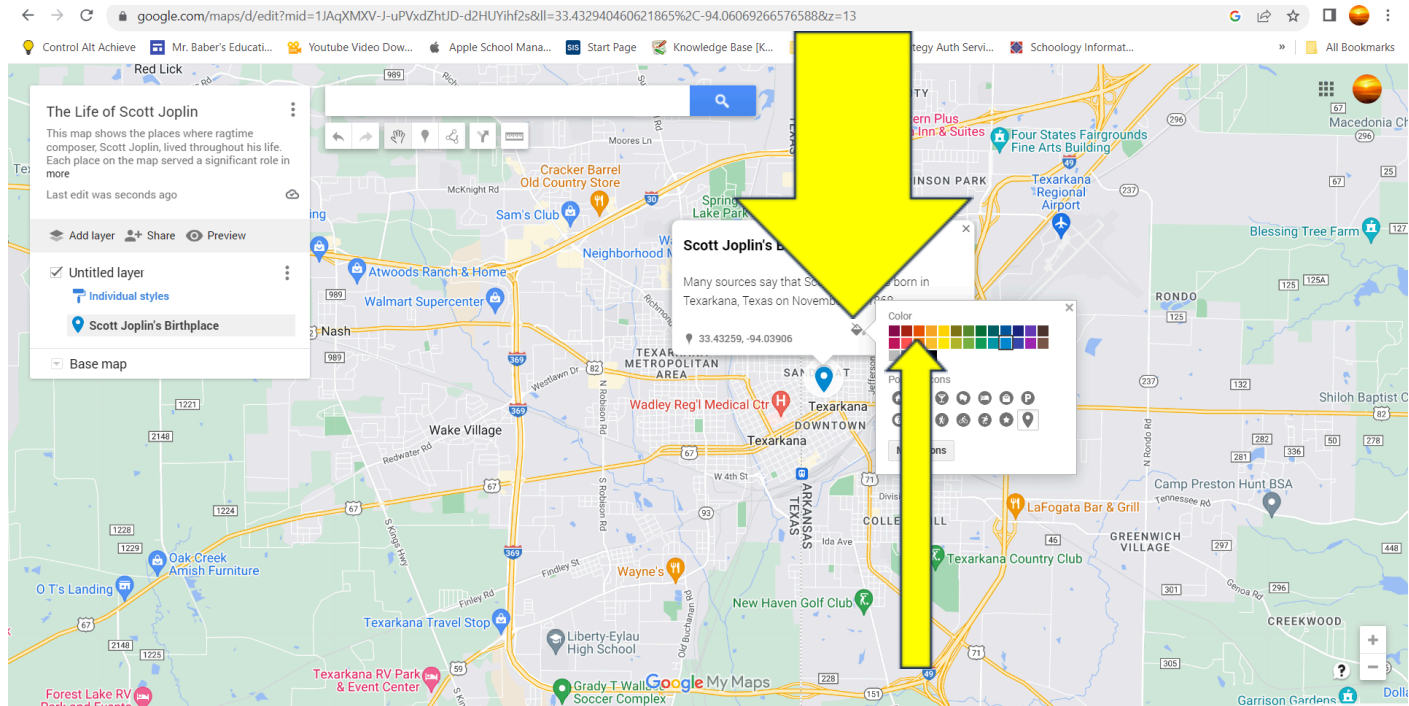
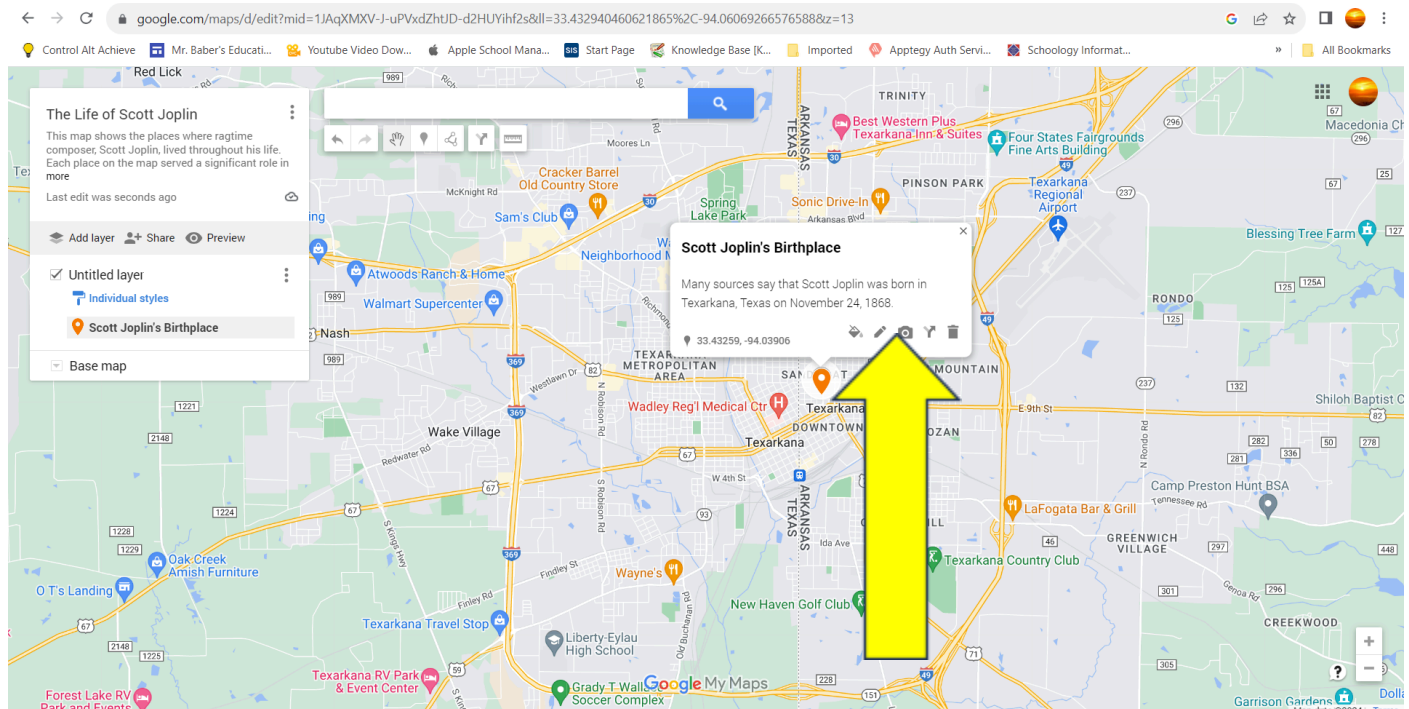9. To place a marker, click the **marker** button on the dashboard.

10. Click on the map where you want to place the marker. Once you do this, a box will appear. You can type in the information necessary in the box that appears to tell this first part of your story. For example, you can type in the name of the city or town in the first box (where it says Point 1). In the second box, type in a description of the place and how it relates to your story. Click **Save**.
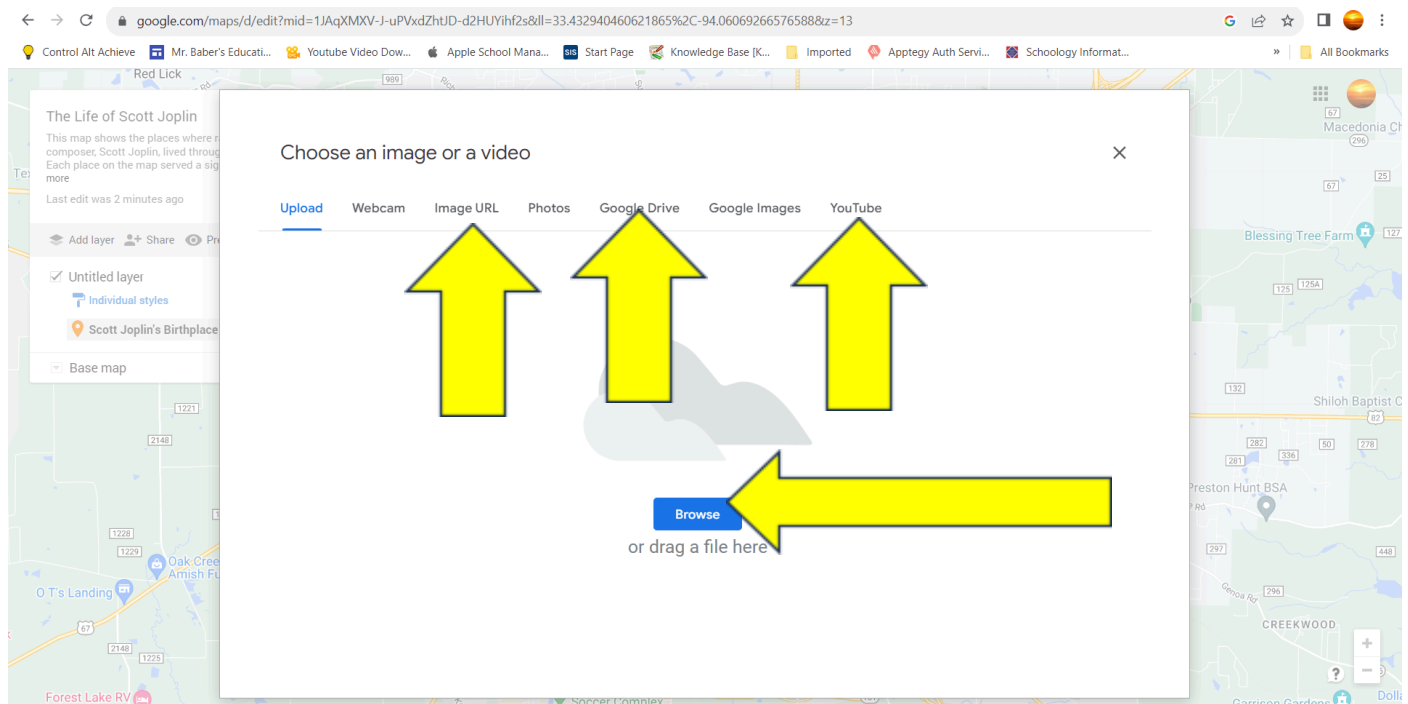
11. Click the **Paint icon** to select a color for your first marker. You may want to use different colors for each marker to make the story easier to follow.
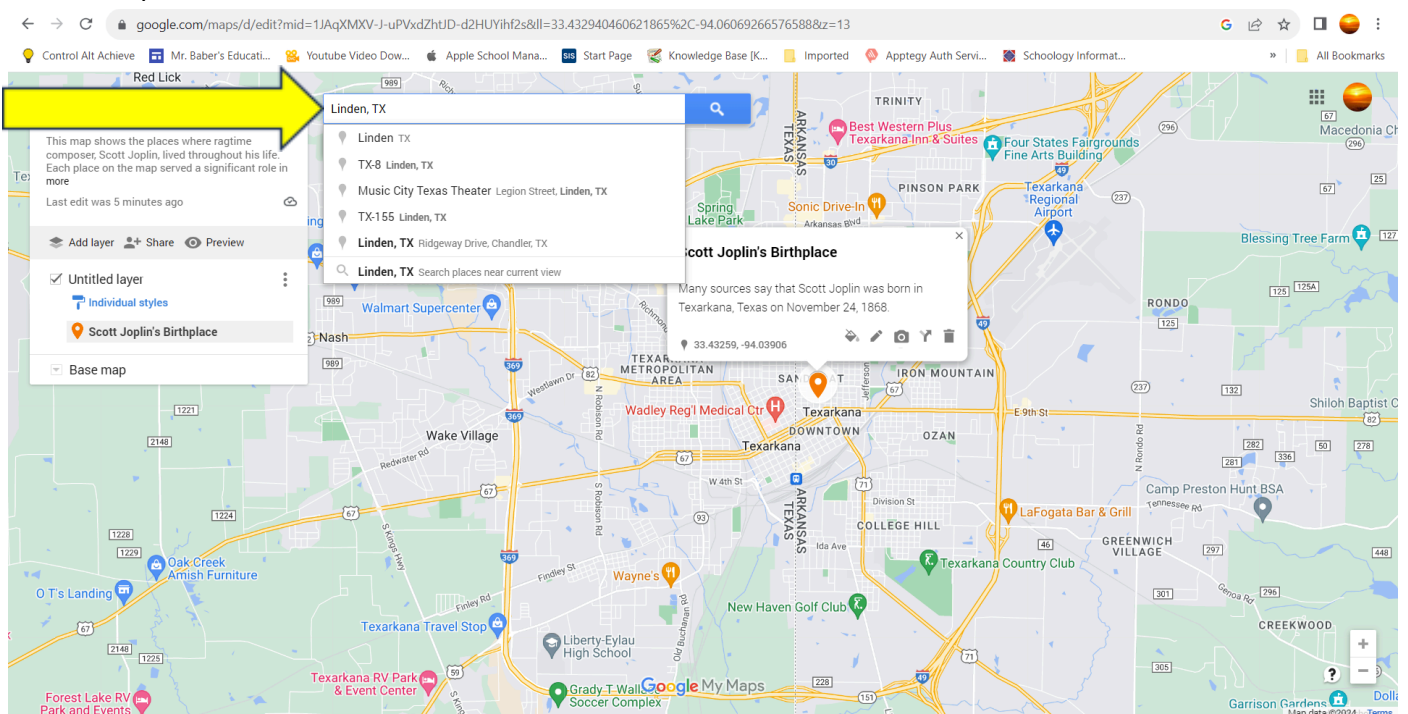

12. If you want to add a picture to this Marker, click the **Camera** icon on the box.
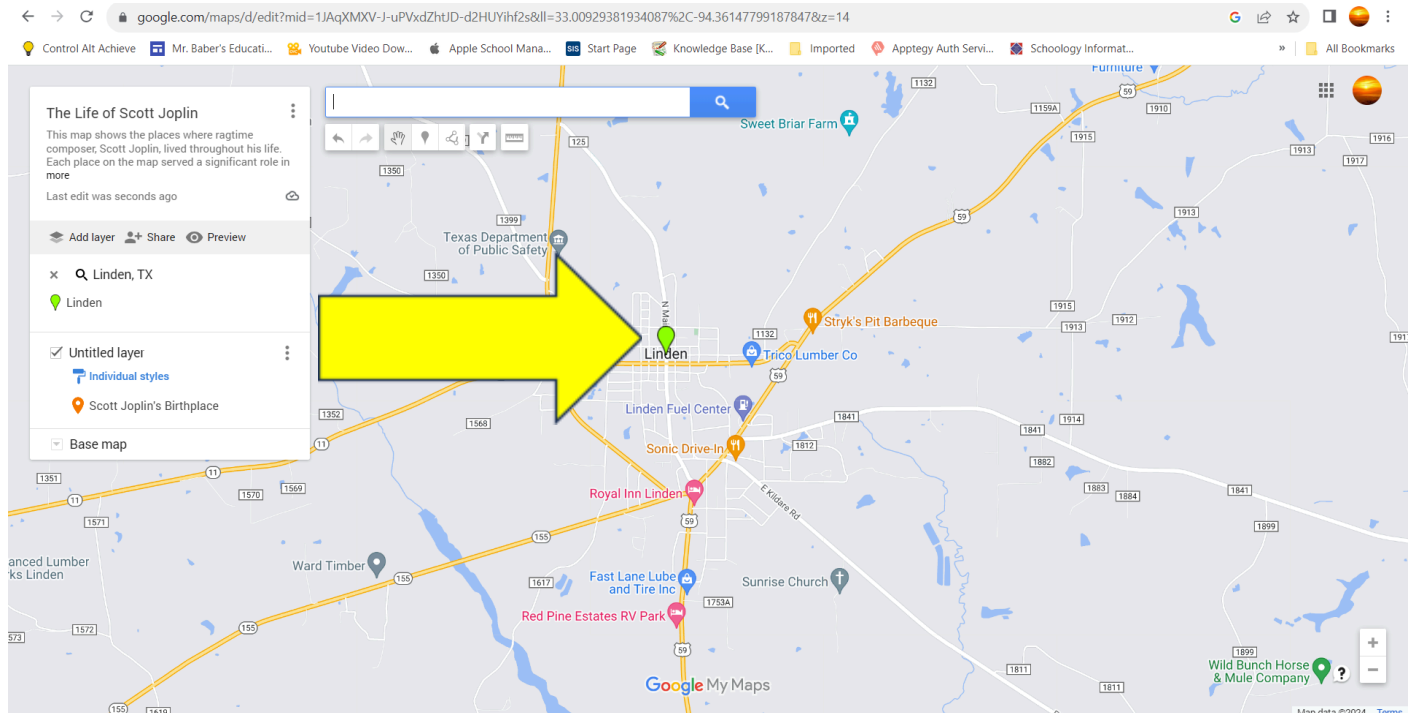
13. You can upload a photo from the internet, or one saved in your Google Drive, YouTube, or on your personal device. To obtain one from your personal device, click the **Browse** button.
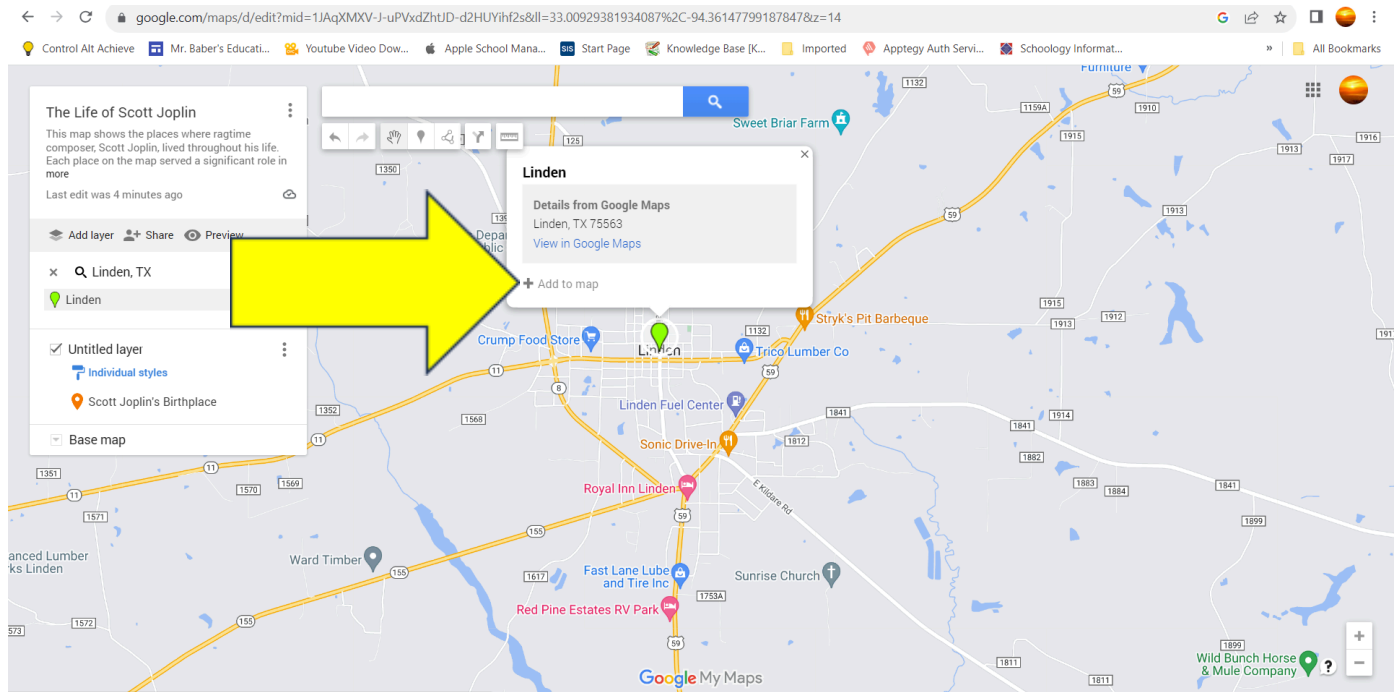

14. Place your second marker on the map. You can type in the name of the location where you want to go in the box provided.
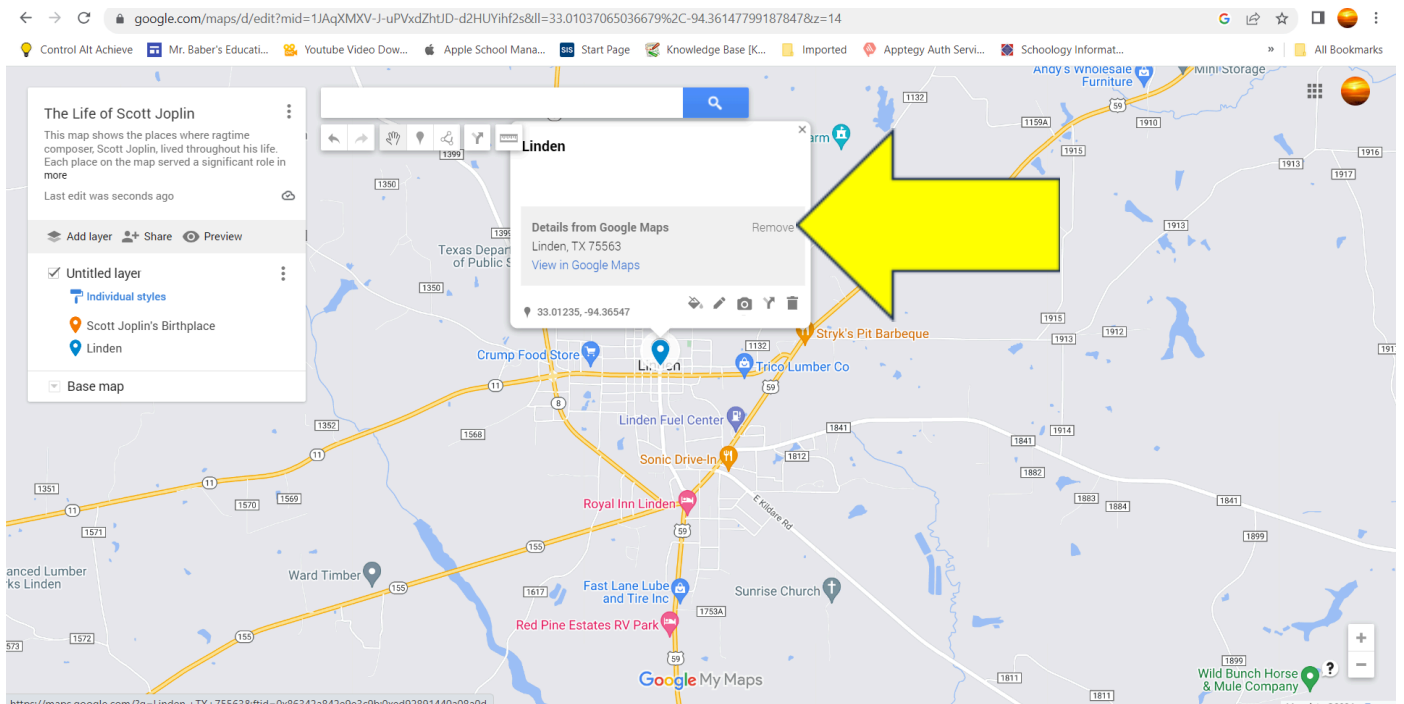
15. If you type in the name of your location, a marker will automatically be placed on that place on the map.
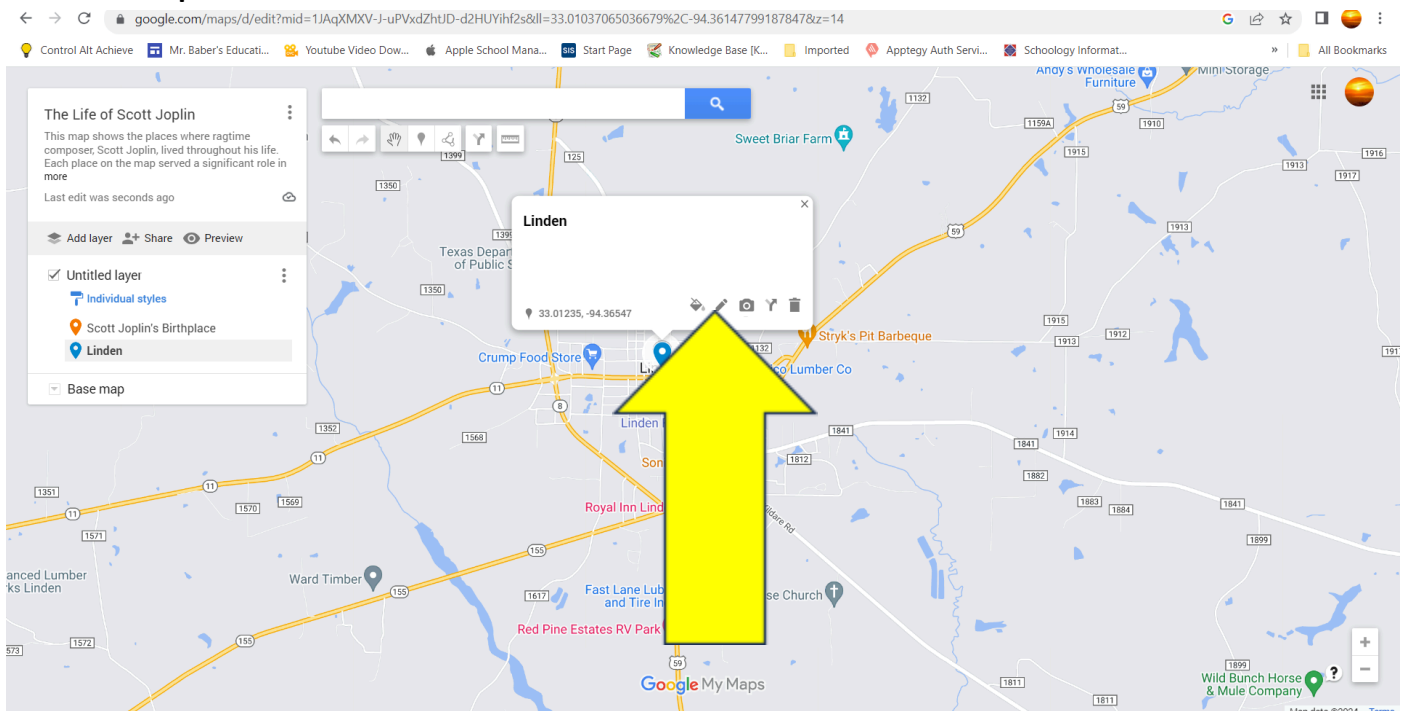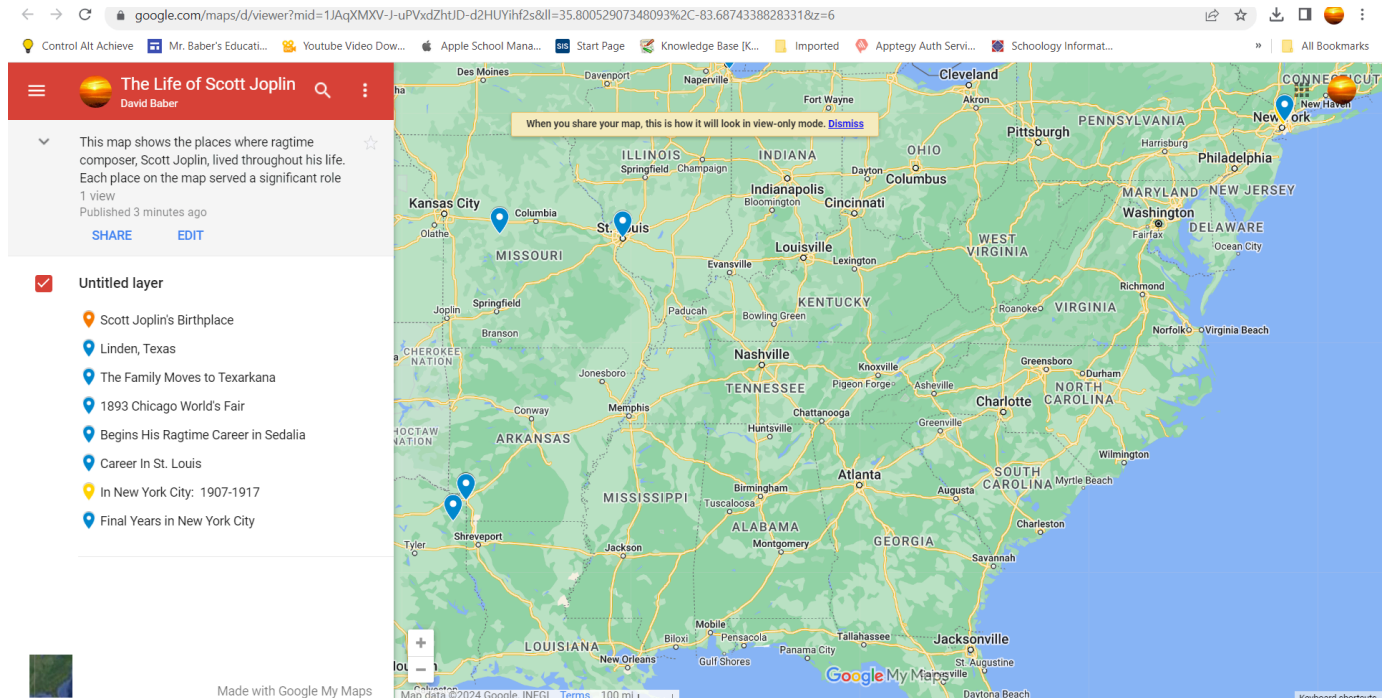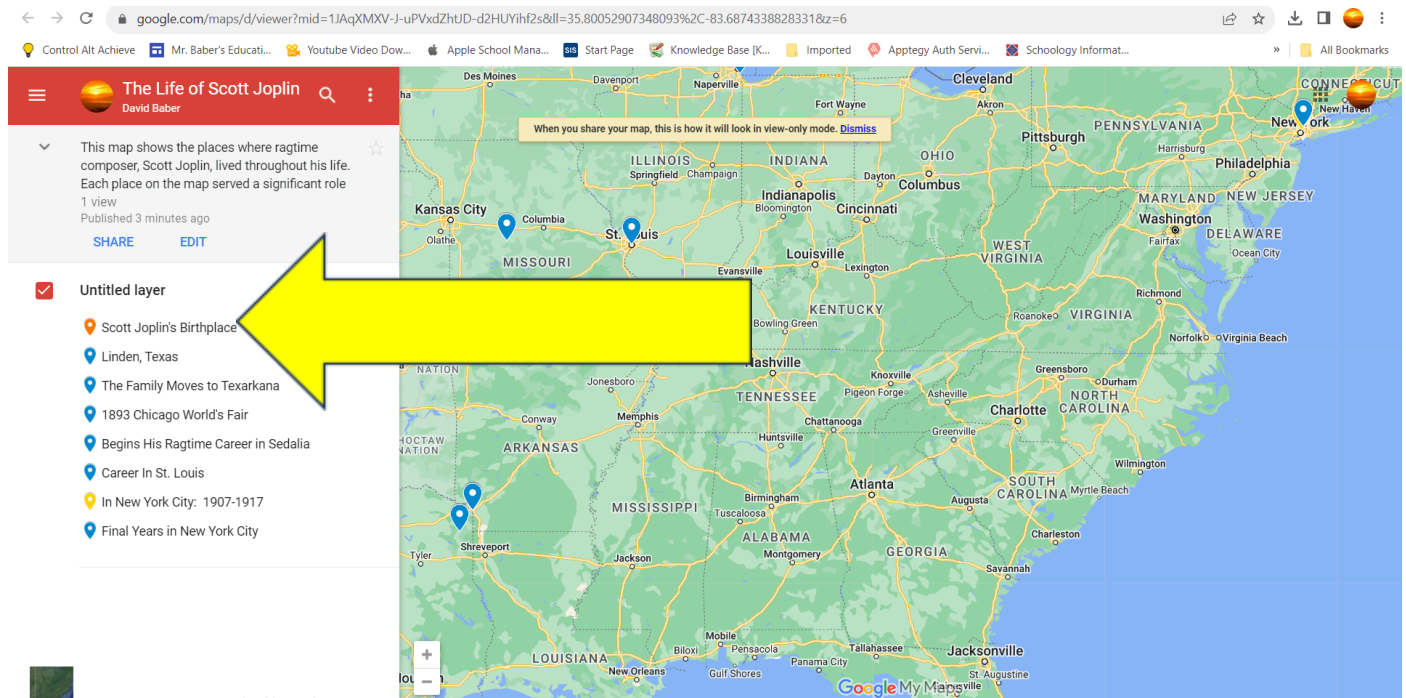

16. Click **Add to Map.**

17. Click **Remove.**

18. Click the **Edit pencil**.

19. Type in the information for your second marker. Click **Save.**

20. Once you have placed all of the markers and created your story, click **Preview** to watch the story.
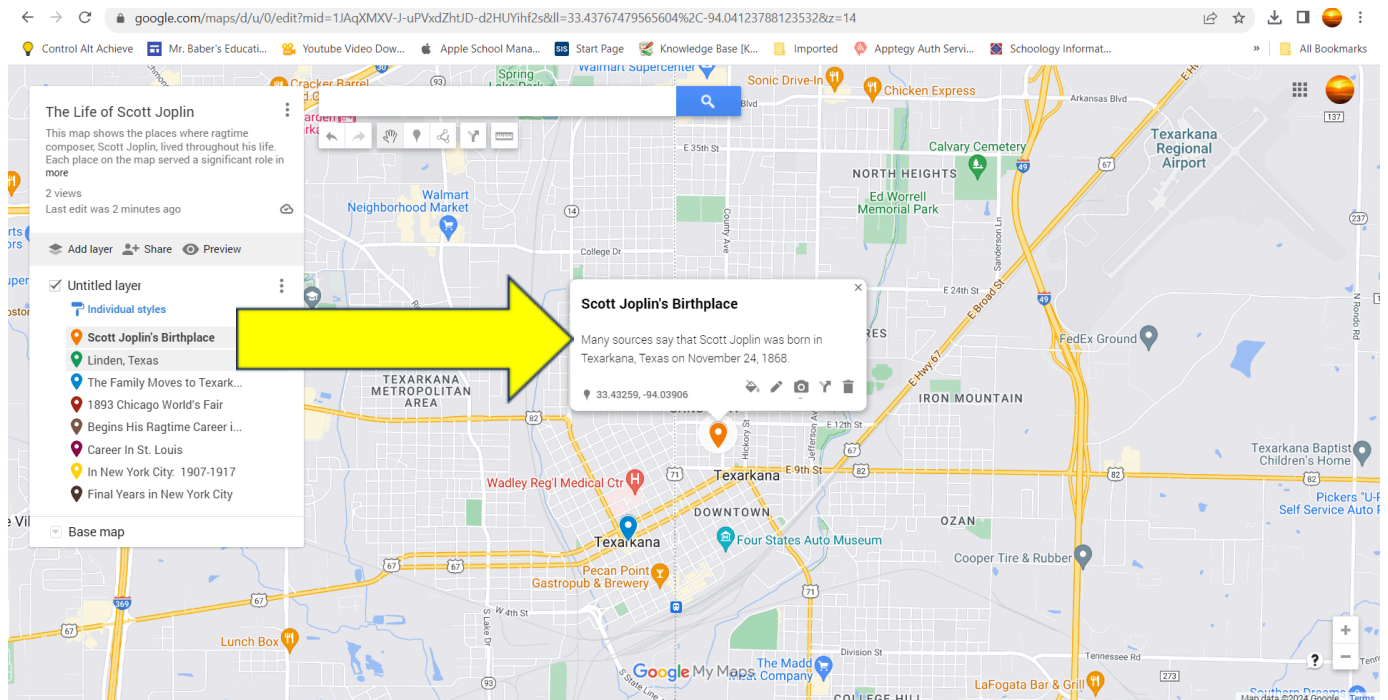
21. You will be directed to Google Maps and will see all the markers for your story on the map. This gives you a perspective of the different towns and cities where your story takes place.
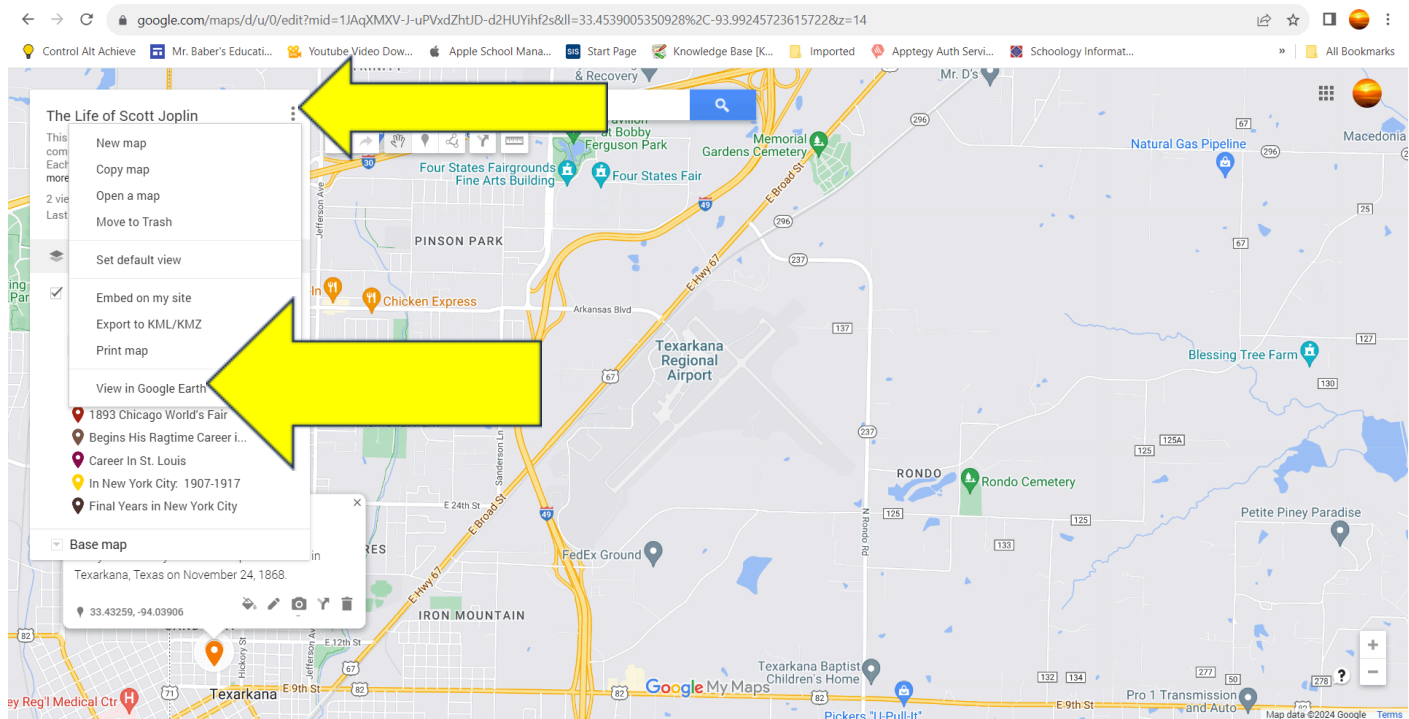

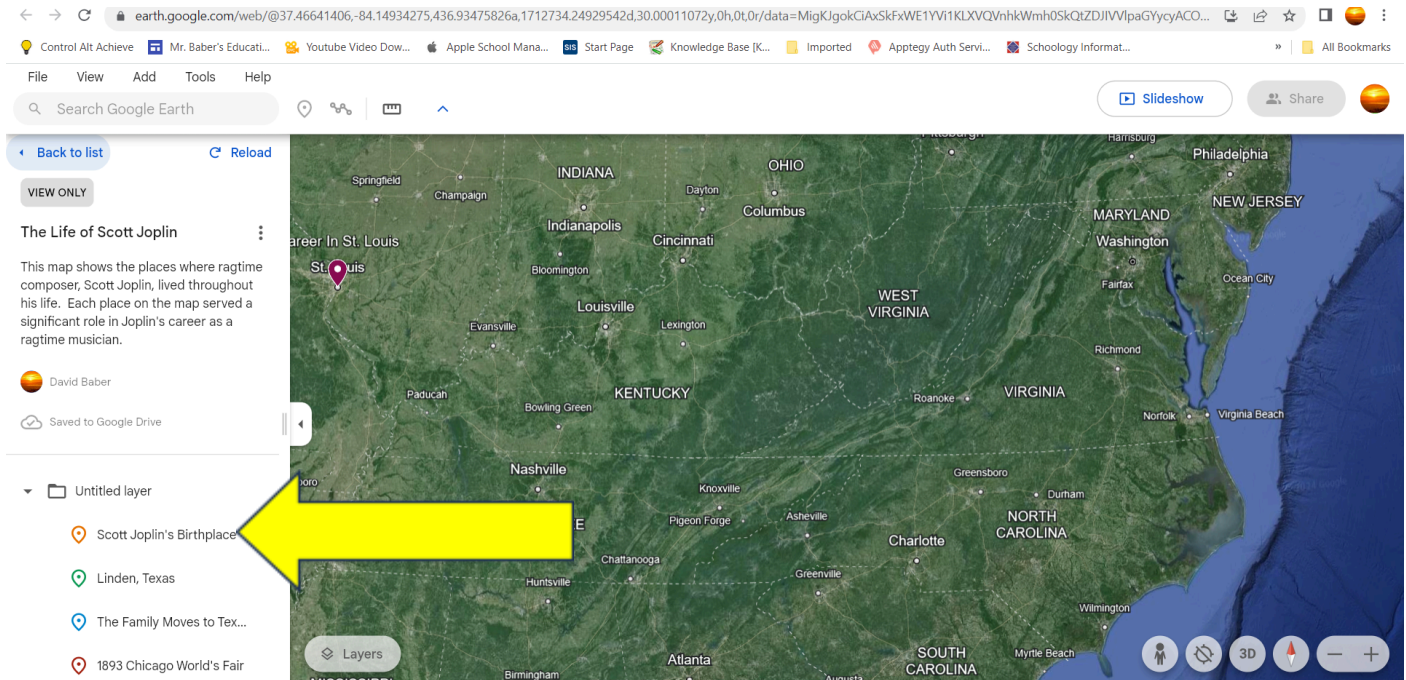22. Click the first marker to start the story.

23. The map will take you to the first marker. You can read the description you typed in the box.
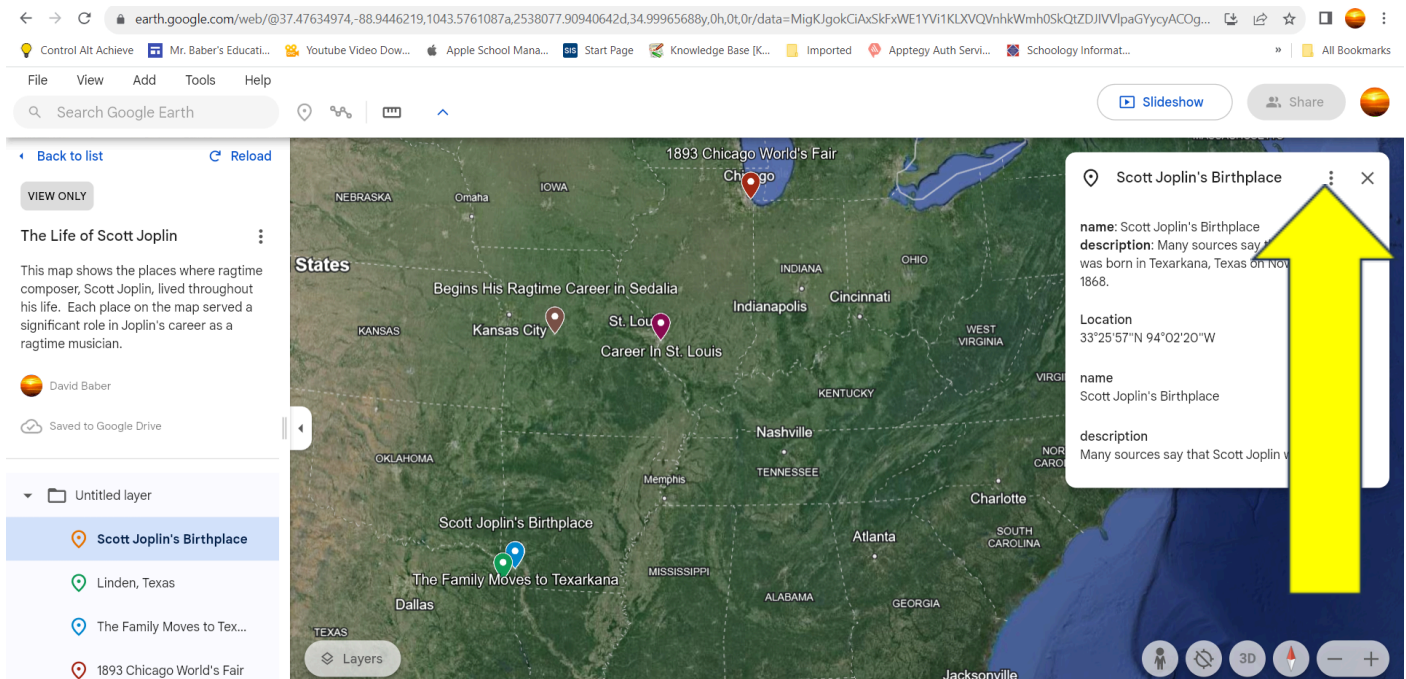

24. You can view the entire presentation by clicking on each marker. You can also view the presentation in Google Earth. With Google Earth, you can "fly" from one place to another. This option adds some visual enhancements to your presentation. To view in Google Earth, click the **three vertical dots** in the right corner of the map's title. From the dropdown menu, select **View in Google Earth.**
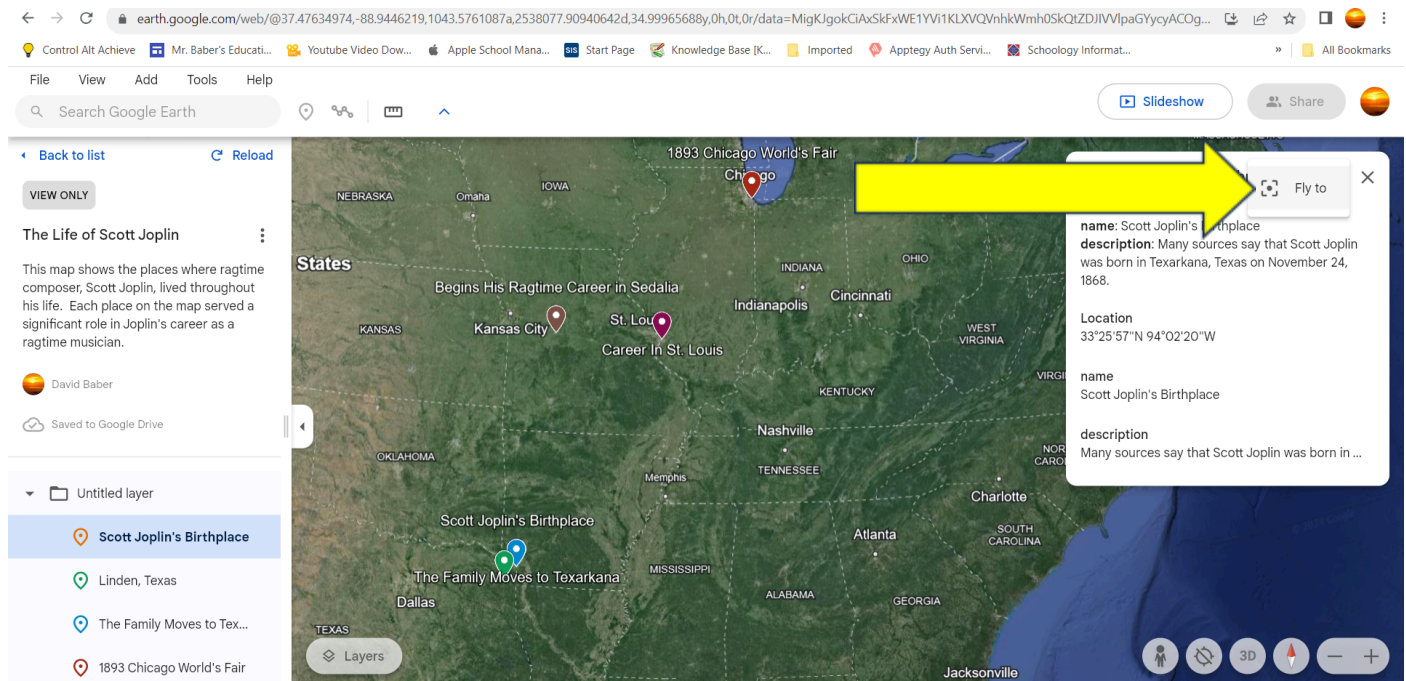
25. Here is your presentation in Google Earth. Click the first marker to view the beginning of the presentation.
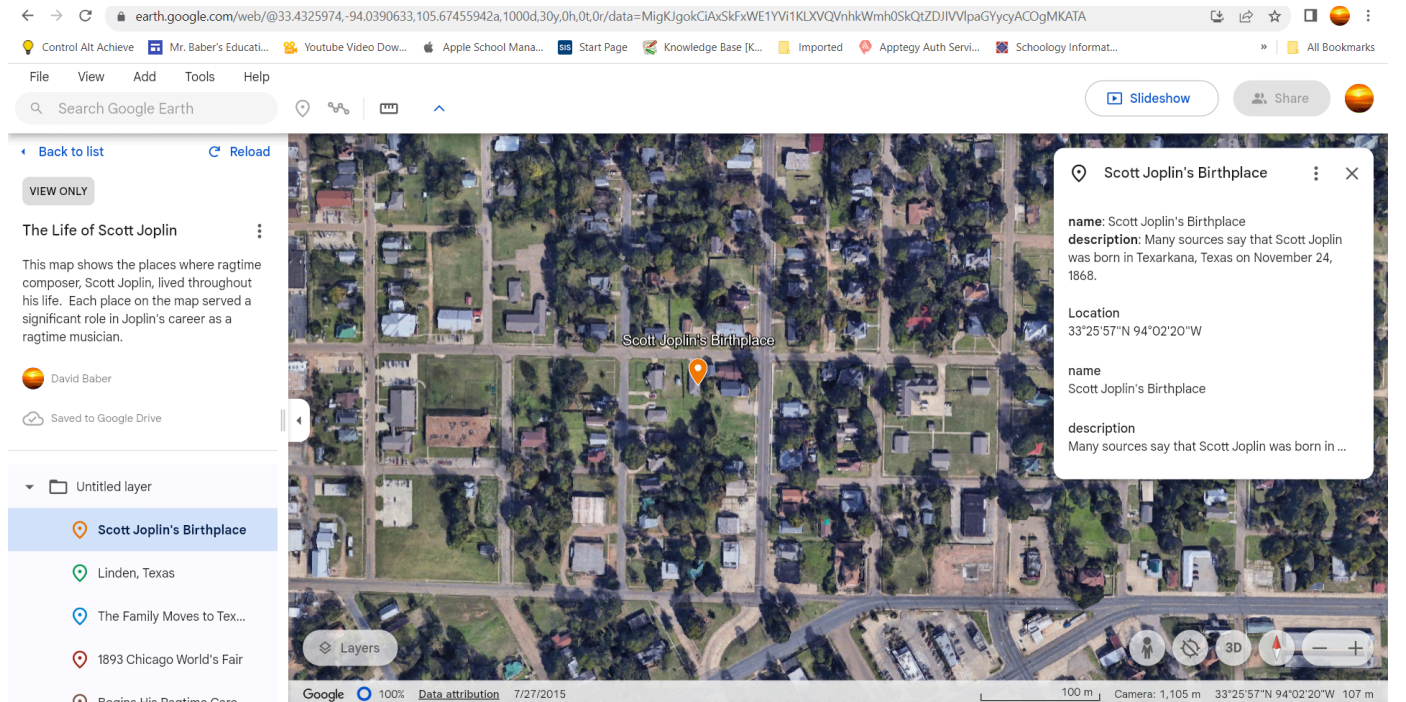

26. Your first information block opens and you can read the story. Then you can "fly" to your location. Click the **three vertical dots** in the top right corner of the story block.
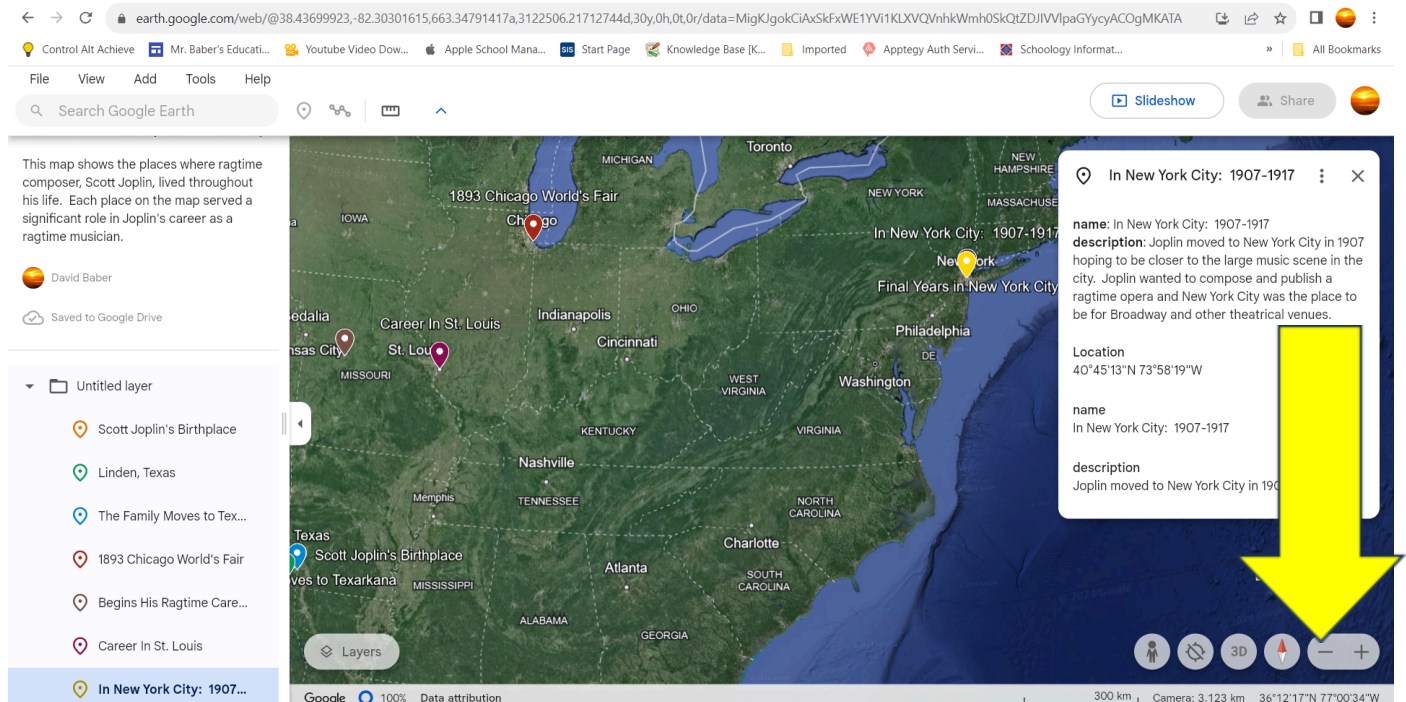
27. Select **Fly to.**
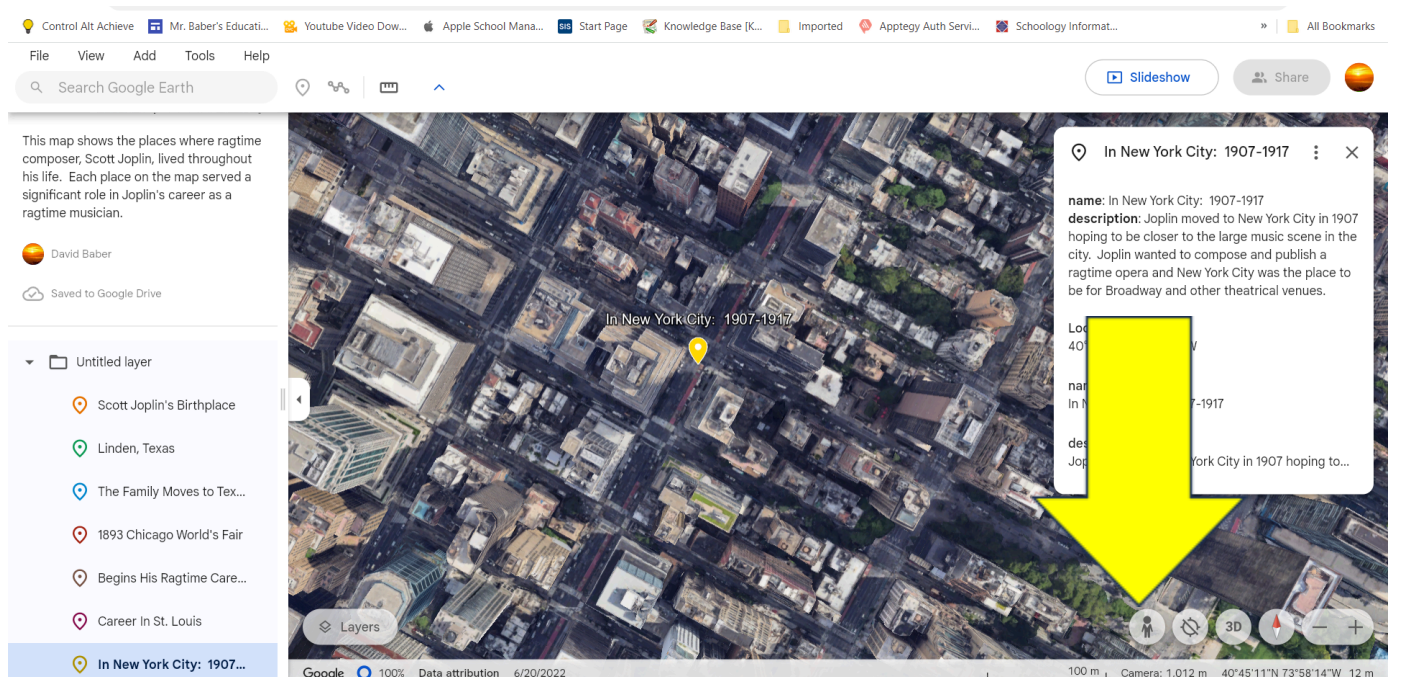

28. Google Earth will zoom in on the marker.

29. Click the next marker and repeat the process of clicking the three vertical dots and selecting Fly to. This will fly you to your next destination. Google Earth turns this presentation into an airplane trip.
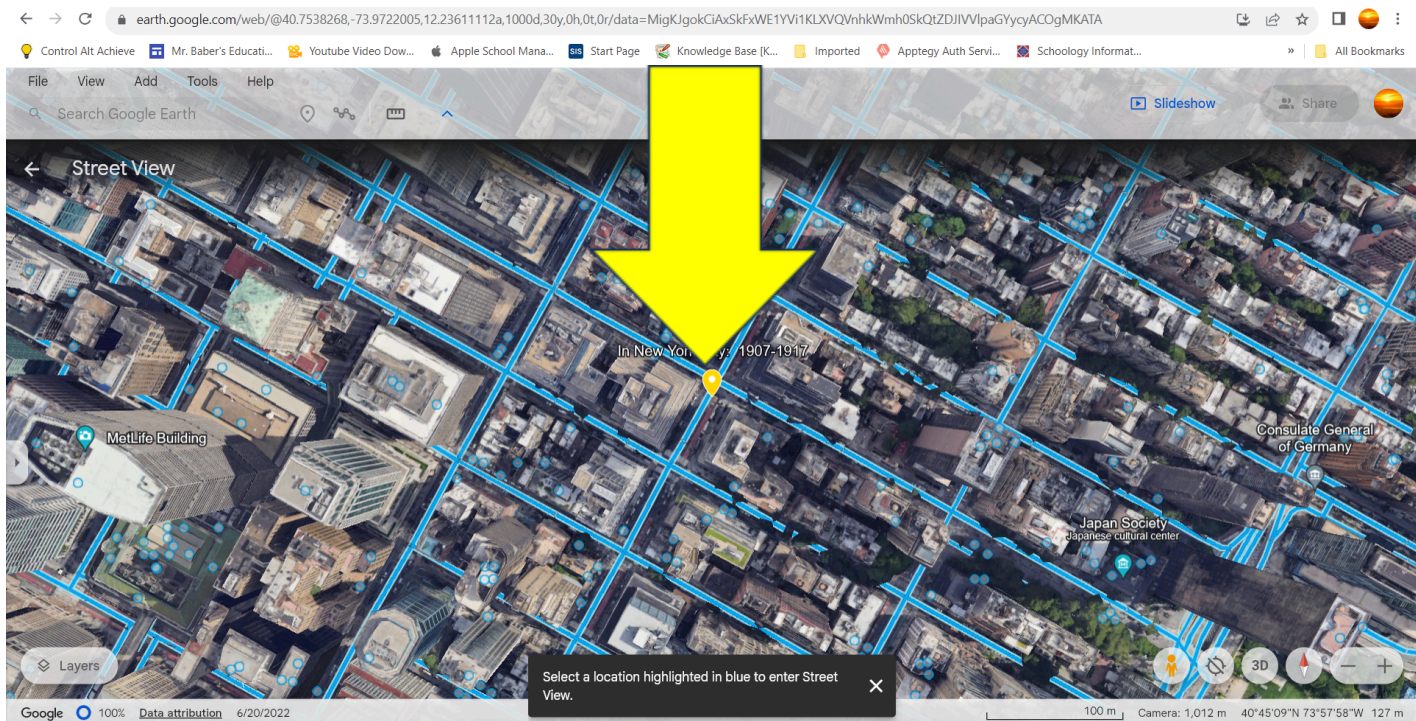
30. You can zoom the map out if you want to see the flight between cities from a larger perspective. Click the – sign to zoom out.
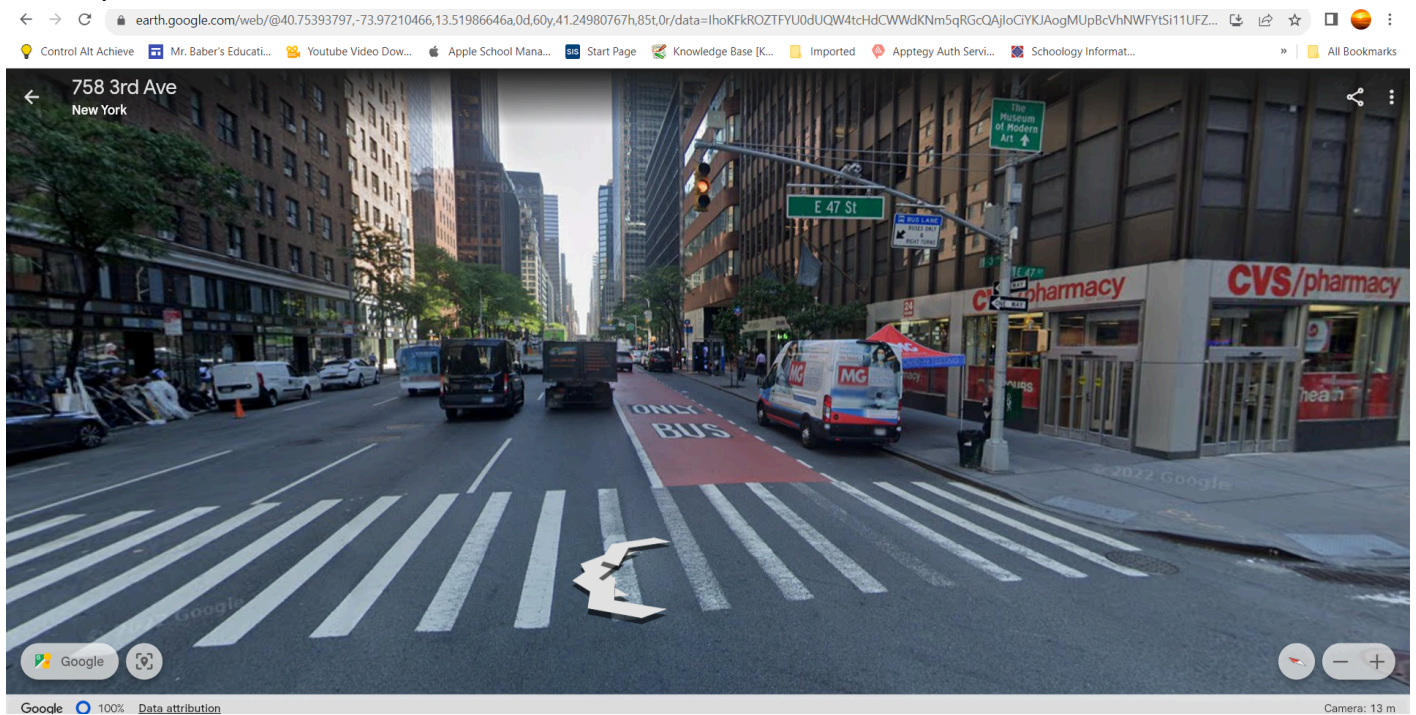

31. You can also go to the Street View at any of your markers. To go to Street View, click the **icon of a person.**
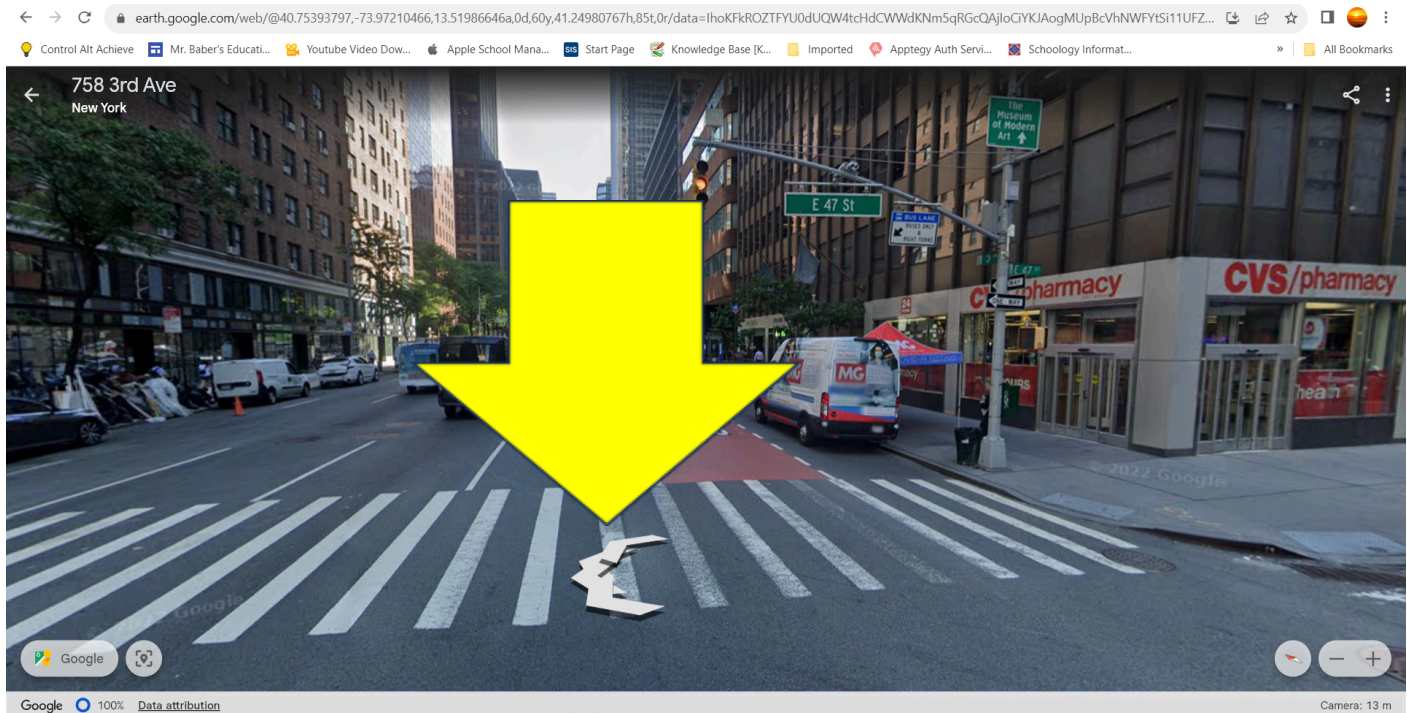
32. This highlights all the streets in blue where street view is available. Click on the marker where you want to go to Street View.
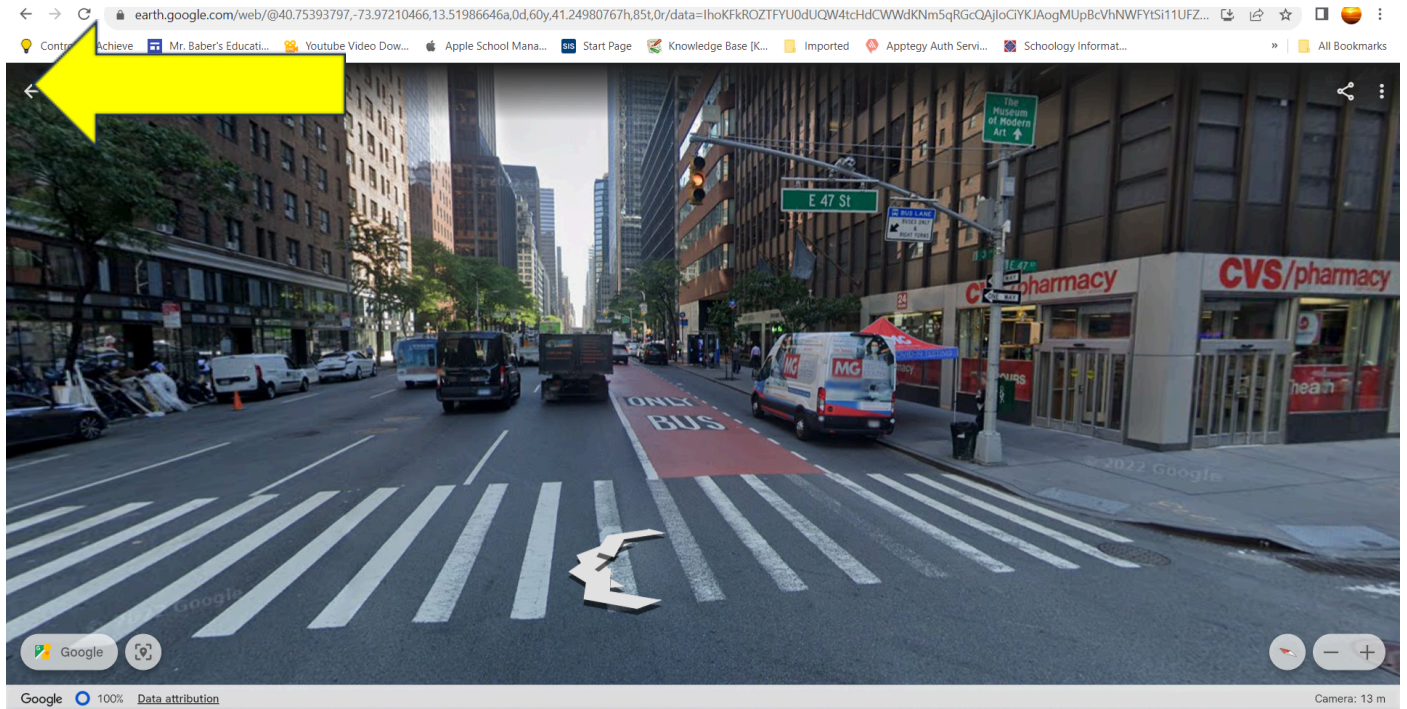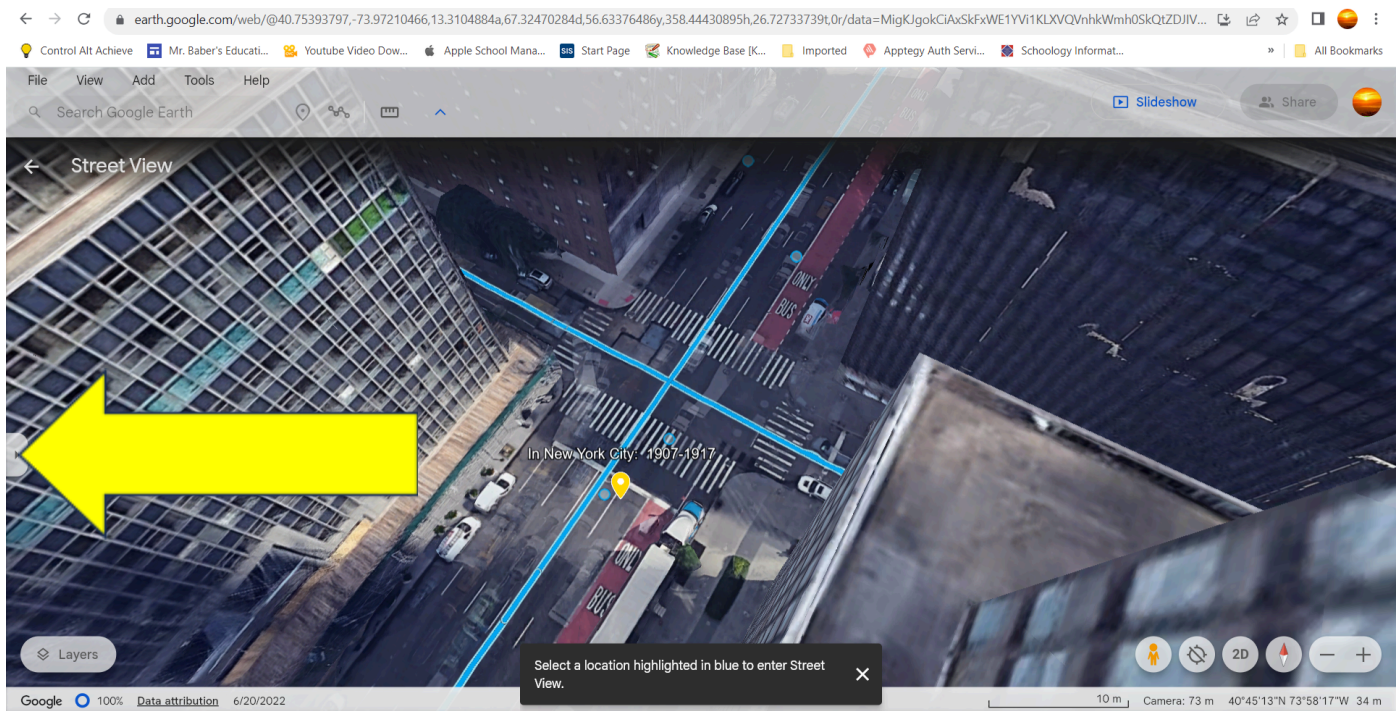

33. Here is your Street View.

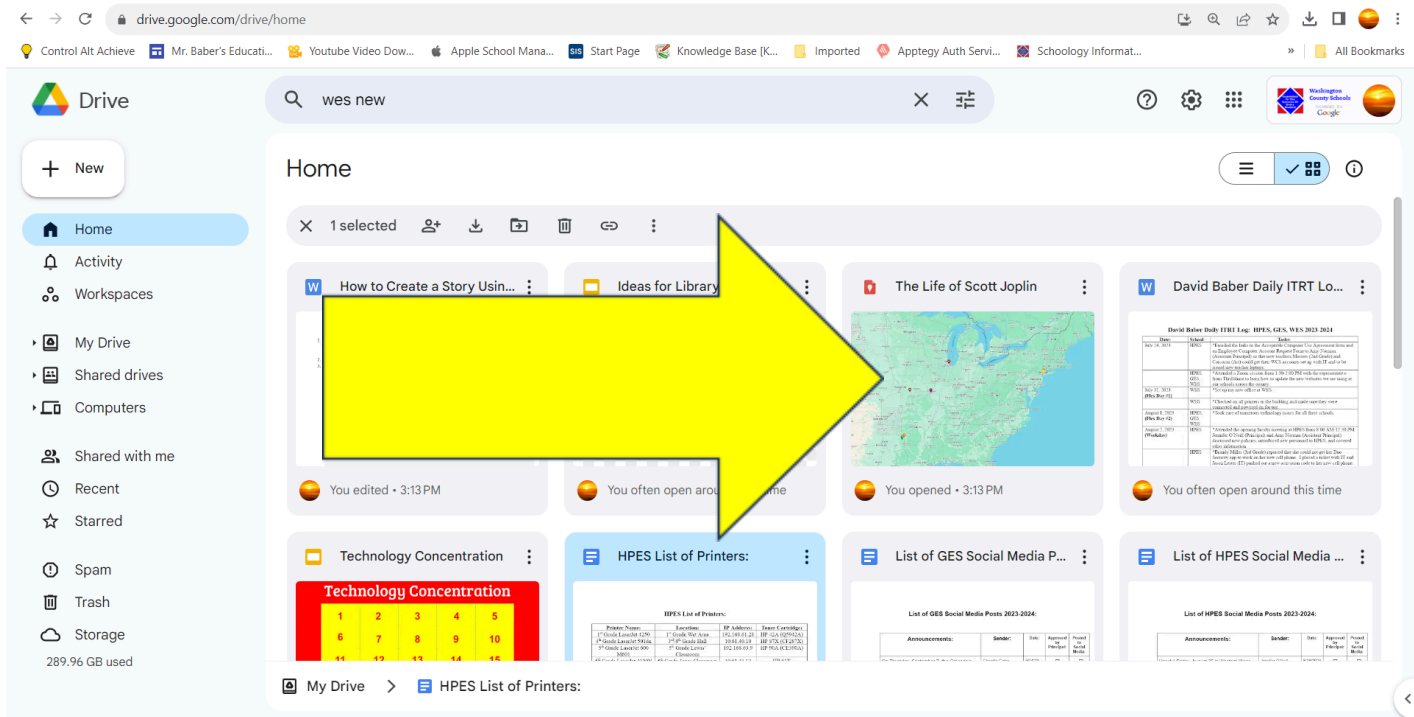34. You can click on the white arrows on the street and go up and down the street on the map.

35. To exit Street View and go back to your story, click the arrow in the upper left corner of the screen.

36. Click the **white and black arrow on the left side** to bring back the story band.

37. Your presentation will be saved in your **Google Drive**. You can share this map with your teacher.

38. Your presentation is also saved on the Google My Maps website. Just sign into your Google account and go to the Google My Maps site to open your presentation.