



Kentucky Geographic Alliance

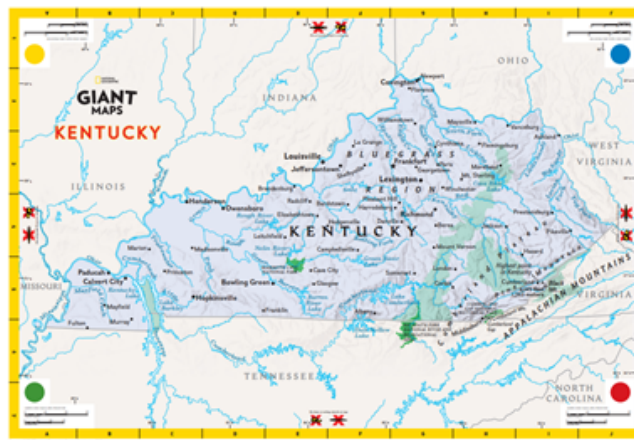
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This month's newsletter:

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The Kentucky Giant Map Needs a Home



The KGA is looking for a teacher or a librarian in an elementary school in Madisonville or the surrounding area to house one of our Kentucky Giant Maps. The map and toolkit will be housed at your school, and you will be

responsible for keeping a schedule and checking it out to other teachers in the region.

- Schools typically keep the map for 2-3 weeks, so all teachers have a chance to use the map.
- The teacher or school that is checking out the map is responsible for transporting the map to and from the school where it is housed.
- The map comes with a toolkit and a lesson handbook. The KGA website houses digital copies of the materials.
- Teachers can contribute new lessons by submitting them to the KGA. Teachers can also add paper copies to the lesson handbook in the tool kit.
- A training session will be planned when the KGA delivers the Kentucky Giant Map to your school.
- Delivery of map and training sessions will be scheduled from October to November 2022.
- Your name and contact information will be on the KGA webpage for the Kentucky Giant Map.

Anyone interested in housing the KY Giant Map should reach out to Jill Brown (jill.brown@wku.edu). Include your position, and the name and address of your school.

The Kentucky Giant Map program consists of 6 maps that are housed throughout the state to be checked out and used by teachers in different schools. The purchase of the maps was made possible by a grant from National Geographic. The development of lesson plans for the lesson handbook and materials for the tool kit were made possible by a grant from the Kentucky Academy of Sciences.

KGA KY Giant Map website (under development):

<https://www.kgalliance.org/kentucky-giant-traveling-map.html>

National Geographic Giant Map website:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/giant-maps/>

Kentucky Academy of Sciences website: <https://kyscience.org/>

Member Spotlight: KGA GIS Webinar

After successfully completing the KGA GIS Webinar hosted in February, Caroline Wells and Amy Medina were asked about their experience. Below is their response to questions asked by the KGA:

Caroline Wells:

School: Jessie Clark Middle School

Grade: 6th Grade

Subject: Social Studies

What was your overall impression of your experience?

I had a very good experience with GIS. I learned a lot and students really were engaged in the experience.

How will you use what you learned about story maps in the classroom?

I think the best way to use story maps going forward is for enrichment activities. Students who have already mastered the material can use story maps to creatively show what they know.

What do you have to say to teachers who are curious about GIS but do not know where to start?

Go for it! It is definitely a challenge, but it is a challenge for you and your students. My students and I learned together and worked together to incorporate GIS into flex activities. It is a great chance to be creative.

Amy Medina:

School: Jessie Clark Middle School

Grade: 7th grade

Subject: Social Studies

What was your overall impression of your experience?

GIS is very hard! But once I figured it out there are so many possibilities. I enjoyed the analysis that I am able to do with it.

How will you use what you learned about story maps in the classroom?

I like that the story maps are interactive. I think this will make maps more interesting and engaging to my students. Also, I think students need to be introduced to GIS as a career option. Career options are changing for the future, and we need to give our students information on some of the new career opportunities.

What do you have to say to teachers who are curious about GIS but do not know where to start?

The WKU webinar series gave me a lot of information. ArcGIS Online has a great getting started page.



<https://bettermeetings.expert/wp-content/uploads/engaging-interactive-webinar-best-practices-and-formats.jpg>

StoryMap Gallery

ESRI has a storymap gallery on their website which is home to various different story topics. Attached is the link:

<https://doc.arcgis.com/en/arcgis-storymaps/gallery/>

Cartography

Attached is a link to a massive open online Esri course that teaches you how to make maps in ArcGIS pro, taught by experts. Below is a description of the event followed by the webpage where you can join the waitlist:

“Once, only cartographers made maps. Today, anyone can. Still, cartographers can teach people to make better maps, just as chefs can show people how to prepare better meals. With coaching from accomplished cartographers and practical, hands-on exercises, you'll

become a smarter mapmaker, ready to go beyond the defaults and produce engaging maps that communicate with impact.”

[https://www.esri.com/training/catalog/596e584bb826875993ba4ebf/cartography/?adumkts=social&utm_source=social&aduc=social&adum=external&aduca=social technical&adusf=instagram&adut=b688e2e8-5931-4123-9670-35da9d7a3f5c](https://www.esri.com/training/catalog/596e584bb826875993ba4ebf/cartography/?adumkts=social&utm_source=social&aduc=social&adum=external&aduca=social%20technical&adusf=instagram&adut=b688e2e8-5931-4123-9670-35da9d7a3f5c)

Please forward the newsletter to any Kentucky educator you think would be interested in
the KGA's free geography resources.

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The KGA uses third party websites and does not provide the content for all resources in the newsletter.
We send you the resources to make you aware of various opportunities
that you might find useful in teaching geography.