



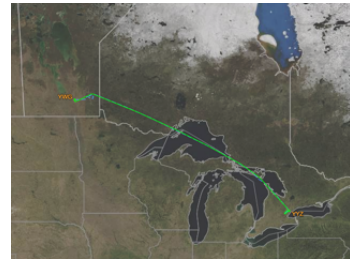
MapToLearn

Creating student success, one map at a time

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## Tracking your Summer Holiday Trip

I'm not sure how many of you will be reading this newsletter during the first week of summer holidays, but if you are, I have a special treat for you.



Your summer holidays have just begun and within a couple of days, you will have fully decompressed, and ready to start your holiday trip. Because you are familiar with ArcGIS Online, you are thinking, could I draw a map and create a Story Map of all the places I visit, include pictures and other "fun" metadata. The short answer, of course, is yes!

There are many ways to do this:

- Pencil and paper - write down the date and name of location at every stop and transfer points manually to your map at a later date.
- Handheld GPS - turn on your GPS device and set it to track your route as you drive. This route can later be transferred by cable to your computer. Bring extra batteries!
- Smartphone apps - there are many apps that do this very well. It's almost too easy, but an app may cost you money and data may not be easily exported.
- Car GPS - track your route as long as you're only interested in the location of your car. Exporting of data is impossible, at least in the cars I have owned.

What if your trip includes a plane or a cruise ship? GPS devices and cell connections are usually forbidden, or expensive to acquire on a plane. What do you do then? This is the treat!

If you are taking a plane, you can download the GPS data from your flight, or any other past flights, and save it to an excel spreadsheet. This is how:

1. Go to [FlightAware.com](https://FlightAware.com)
2. Enter your airline and flight no., then click on the **Track** button. This will display the upcoming, current, and past flights.
3. Select the one that interests you and analyze the data. Look for a link called **View track log** right under **Flight Details** and click on it.
4. Copy (Click and drag, Cmd-C) and Paste (Cmd-V) the table into excel or other kind of spreadsheet app.
5. Clean it up - get rid of rows that don't contain latitude and longitude data and save it as a CSV (comma separated values) file.
6. Drag this file onto you ArcGIS Online map, give it a couple of seconds, done!

This should automatically generate a map layer with each row in your spreadsheet being a waypoint on your map. Now configure the Map and Pop-ups and/or create a Story Map with pictures and events along the way.



Best regards!

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