

GOOGLE EARTH PREVIEW ACTIVITY

Procedure

1. Open Google Earth
 2. Using the search tool, type in your school's address (11900 Bailey Road; Cornelius, NC) and press "Search."
 3. Use the navigation tools to zoom in as far as you can on your location. If possible, notice the season when the image was taken.
 - a. What details of the photographs help you identify the time of day or year?
 4. Zoom back out from your school. Use the tools to move around the image. Look for locations or landmarks that are familiar to you. Use them to locate your home.
 - a. What clues in the image did you use to find your home?
 - b. What is the latitude and longitude for your home?
 5. Center your school in the image and zoom out again until the altitude is about 40km (25miles) above Earth's surface.
 - a. Describe the topography of this area. Look for mountains, hills, flat areas...include water features such as lakes, rivers, streams, and oceans.
 - b. Where is each land feature located in the image you are looking at?
 - c. Is the area where you live a large city, a small city, or in the countryside? How do the images indicate that?
 - d. Green areas show vegetation—grass, plants and trees. Is more land taken up by buildings or vegetation?
 - e. Is the land around you flat, hilly, or mountainous? How do the images indicate that?
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Stop and Think Questions:

- 1) How did Google Earth show elevation and depth? How did it show steep or gentle slopes?
 - 2) What have you learned about using Google Earth that you think the rest of the class should know as they continue using it to explore Earth's topography (general arrangement of a land surface)?
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Now investigate your Pen Pal's location a little deeper (aka your Earth's structure/region)

1) Continuing with Google Earth program, type in the name of your Earth's structure.

2) Zoom in on your Earth structure and fly (take a tour) over the surrounding region. Record observations. You may have to "tour" 2-3 times to really get good observations.

3) Zoom out from your Earth Structure until the area you are looking at is about 300km (186miles) wide.

- Describe the topography of this area. Look for mountains, hills, and flat areas. Include water features, such as lakes, rivers, streams, and oceans. Where is each land feature located in this image? How close are these land features to your Earth structure?
 - Where are cities located in your region? Are they large or small compared to where you live? How close are the cities to your Earth structure?
 - Is more land taken up by buildings or vegetation? Describe the vegetation around your Earth structure.
 - What is the highest elevation in the region you are observing? What is the elevation? What is its longitude/latitude?
 - Is the land around you flat, hilly or mountainous? How does Google Earth images indicate that?
 - Describe the elevation. Is it steeply sloped or gently sloped? Describe the surrounding land. Is it flat hilly or mountainous?
 - What other features describe your Earth structure or region?
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Draw topography map (sketch) for your landform in your NB along with an elevation chart. Be sure to label your landform. Use Google Earth to help you! 😊

