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Summer is in full swing, but while you're relaxing at home or maybe on the beach, think ahead of how you can be prepared for GeoMentoring in the upcoming school year! Use our [online ConnectED school map](#) in two ways: 1) If a local school IS NOT on the map, you can reach out to let them know about the free software and assistance available, OR, 2) If a local school IS on the map, reach out to find who is affiliated with the ArcGIS Online account to see how they are using the software and if they'd like help to increase or expand their use!

Current GeoMentor Count: 1,229



Current School Count: 3,392



Monthly Mentor Challenge

The more we hear from educators and GeoMentors alike, the more it is confirmed that GeoInquiries are invaluable tools for initially illustrating the potential of geospatial technology to support existing curriculum. This month we challenge you to:

Choose and complete ONE of the available GeoInquiries to better understand this classroom resource

All 5 current sets of GeoInquiries (Earth Science, US History, Human Geography, Interdisciplinary, and Environmental Science) are [available online](#). Each exercise is just 15 minutes and requires no log in. Consider how you could introduce this to a teacher and what additional data exploration or analysis could relate to and expand upon this initial activity!

Tell us what learned from this month's Mentor Challenge by tweeting [@AAGGeoMentors](#) and using #GeoMentorChallenge.

GeoMentor Spotlight

Michelle Doyle

Each month we feature a GeoMentor volunteer to showcase the wonderful talent available in our community to assist K-12 schools.

Name: Michelle Doyle

Position and Affiliation: GIS Product Specialist

What was your favorite class in K-12? Economics in high school

How did you first learn about and/or use GIS? Business Geography at the University of Florida

Name one thing you love about GIS and/or geography: GIS provides both the framework and the process for creating a smarter world.



Why did you want to volunteer as a GeoMentor? A couple of years ago, I watched the high school students from Molokai, Lily and Sarah Jenkins, present amazing work in GIS, and thought this was a once in a lifetime opportunity for students to be able to relate to their local community given the right tools. (Here's a video of the presentation Michelle is referring to.)

What kind of GeoMentor volunteer opportunity and experience are you looking for? Advanced mapping technology gives students access to spatial knowledge and the power to think in a new realm of possibility. Students that are exposed to this type of independent research early on (7th & 8th grade) have the ability to adapt to real-world experiences. As a GeoMentor, I have watched them not only self-learn their skills in GIS, but teach other students how to develop tools, building web maps, applications, and Story Maps. It is such an incredible experience when their work is presented through this technology in new and exciting ways!

Email address: MDoyleGIS@gmail.com

Read Michelle's full spotlight and our previous spotlights [here](#). Want to be featured? Information is available [online](#).

Earn a Free Pin

Share your GeoMentor experience as a [case study](#) and receive the Esri GIS Innovator pin!



Get Your Certificate

[Tell us](#) about your activities and receive an official [certificate of participation](#)!



Recent Events

2016 Esri Education GIS and User Conferences

AAG and GeoMentors staff were honored to once again attend and participate in both the Esri Education GIS Conference and User Conference recently held in San Diego.

It was a fantastic week of meeting current and aspiring GeoMentors, getting inspired by the diverse work of the GIS community, and spreading the word about how we can help improve GIS and

geography education at the K-12 level.

Here are some images and tweets from the week!



Education Update

Proposal for New Advanced Placement Course in GIS&T

The American Association of Geographers is leading the charge on a proposal for a new Advanced Placement course in Geographic Information Science & Technology (AP GIS&T).

As a STEM course offering, AP GIS&T is designed to introduce high school students to the fundamentals of geographic information science and applications of powerful geospatial technologies for spatial analysis and problem solving.

The proposal highlights the GeoMentors network as one source of professional development support and mentoring available to prospective AP GIS&T teachers.

The proposal will be made available [online](#) soon. Next month's GeoMentors newsletter will provide information about ways GeoMentors can get involved to support the proposal.

If you have any questions, please contact the AAG at ap_gist@aag.org.



[GeoMentors Flyer](#)

[Newsletter Archive](#)

Share this [flyer](#) with your geo-friends and colleagues to help grow our GeoMentors community!



Check out previous issues in our [archive](#).



Featured Resource

Connecting GIS with Education Video

Each year at the Esri User Conference, a group of students are featured on the main plenary stage to showcase the wonderful work they are doing with GIS.

This year highlighted a group of high school students from San Andreas High School in California.

Be inspired by their achievements (and see the pitch for the GeoMentors program!) in the video of their presentation, available online [here](#) or by clicking the embedded image.



GeoMentor Reports from the Field

Share Your GeoMentor Activities

Do you have GeoMentor activities to report? We want to hear about them! We want to applaud and document your efforts (get your official GeoMentors certificate!) and also track how our community as a whole is making progress with US K-12 education.

Email geomentors@aag.org to let us know what you've been up to and consider submitting your story as a [program case study](#) to be featured online.

All GeoMentors who submit a case study receive a GIS Innovator pin!



Questions? Contact program staff at geomentors@aag.org.

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GEOMENTOR**

**REPORT YOUR GEOMENTOR
ACTIVITIES**



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