

Steps for Creating Graphs for Google Earth

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1. Download 'GE graph' from <http://www.sgrillo.net/googleearth/>
2. Create a set of placemarks in GoogleEarth and place them in one folder in My Places. For example, create a placemark for each country in South America, each state in the U.S., or major cities in Europe. The location of your placemarks will dictate where the graph features (bars, circles, etc.) are centered. You can use the 'Fly to' search box to locate the place that you wish to placemark.
3. Save your entire placemark folder as a .kml file (be sure that it is KML and not KMZ. You can select .kml from the 'save as type' drop down menu.)
4. Launch the GE Graph program.
5. Go to File > Open kml and select your file.
6. In the bottom right hand portion of the screen you should see 4 columns (lat, long, name, value). The first three should be complete with your placemark data. Now you (or the students!) can add any values that you wish to the value column such as population, infant mortality, literacy rate, etc.
7. Customize the graph type, size, color scheme, title, labels, etc.
8. Go to File > Save txt to preserve the data that you've entered. You can use the txt file later to create new graphs for the same locations based on different attributes.
9. Select 'Run' (you'll be prompted to save your kml graph file) and Google Earth will launch your graph. Move your graph layer to your original Placemarks folder for safe keeping.

You can also import a txt file into GE Graph, but it is quite picky about the format. I found it better to create the first txt file using the above process. You can then edit the txt with new values (preserving the lat/long) for import back into GE Graph.

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