Community Mapping: Creating a Map using GoogleMaps

ASK
How can I create a map using the Internet?

INVESTIGATE
Go to maps.google.com and spend some time discovering its features.
Type in your home address and click “search maps”. You should see a marker appear in the map screen that shows the location of your home. Explore some of these additional features:
• Click the “Directions” link on the left to find the recommended route from your home to a different location.
• Click the “Search Nearby” link on the left to search for business or tourist locations near your home.
• Experiment with the zoom tools to change the view of your map.
• Change the map view by selecting the Map, Satellite, and Terrain buttons (upper right).
Click My Maps (upper left) and watch the short video tutorial on how to create your own map
• Browse the directory to find more map features.
• Choose a map features, such as weather channel data, that you would like to add to your map.

CREATE
1. Create a Google account if you do not already have one. Log-in and go to “My Maps.”
2. Create your own map. To guide you through the process, a (YouTube) video titled “How to Create a ‘My Map’ in Google Maps” will pop up.
3. Have fun designing your own map. Be sure to give it a name in the Title section. You may also write a description and decide if you want this map to be public or private (unlisted). A public map will be available to anyone on the Internet.

DISCUSS
• What did you learn about maps?
• What did you enjoy most about creating your map?
• What are the elements of a good map?

REFLECT
• How can customized maps be useful to you? Your family? Your community?