



Esri GIS Software Capacity QuickView for Education

Esri has various GIS tools that can be used in education. Different tools have different capacities. This simple table highlights some basic powers and key differences among tools popular for classroom instruction. For more info, see <http://edcommunity.esri.com/software>.

	ArcGIS.com MapViewer	ArcGIS Explorer Online	ArcGIS Explorer Desktop	ArcGIS Desktop (ArcInfo, ArcEditor, ArcView)
Free or \$	free	free	free	\$
Application type	Any Javascript-capable web browser	Web browser with Silverlight plugin	Web-interactive desktop app	robust desktop app
Hard drive space required for application and built-in data	Browser only	Browser plus small plugin	app = 150 mb data = Web/cache	app = 2 gb data = choice
Windows	Y	With plugin	Y	Y
Macintosh OSX	Y	With plugin	-	-
Mobile	with JS browser	With plugin	-	-
Open/create/share "projects"	via ArcGIS Online	via ArcGIS Online	Y	Y
Display GIS data stored on user's hard drive	-	-	Various types	Widest variety
Display varied data shared online as web service, e.g. ArcGIS Online	Y	Y	Y	Unlimited
Add/display points (e.g. GPS data) and link to WWW, pics, files	Type coords or do dot, convert to note (1x1), link to web	Type coords or do dot, convert to note (1x1), link to web	Type cords, do dot, or ingest data file, convert to notes, link to web or local	Unlimited
Pan/zoom, go global to local	Y	Y	Y	Unlimited
Identify features, find places	Y	Y	Y	Unlimited
Measure	-	Y	Y	Unlimited
Analyze using query	-	Limited	More	Unlimited
Analyze via changing classification and/or symbolization of features	Only for notes	Only for notes	Only for notes	Unlimited
Display in both 2D and 3D	-	-	Y	Y (via 3D apps)
Create & view "presentations"	-	Y	Y	Using extension; build animations
Change projection display	-	-	Via modifying settings	Unlimited
Export map contents	Browser's print or screenshot options	Browser's print or screenshot options	App's print or screenshot options	Unlimited
Custom curriculum	EdCommunity blog, ArcLessons	EdCommunity blog, ArcLessons	EdCommunity blog, ArcLessons	EdCommunity blog, ArcLessons, www.esri.com/ourworldgiseducation