

# A Place in Time with Google Tools

History, Geography and the Impact of Photography

Explore with your students the power of images and their impact on history as they research, select and evaluate photographs in an interactive and collaborative lesson. Incorporate geographic literacy into the experience by challenging them to focus on the significance of the place, captured in time, that influenced events.

Start with **Google Earth**  
<http://earth.google.com/>

1. Build a Google Earth tour for your students by selecting several photographs that have influenced either U.S. or World opinion. Find these photographs in text materials or locate them on the Web.

2. Start your project by creating a new "Folder" in the Google Earth "My Places" sidebar. Click on "Add/Folder" in the top menu. Name the folder "A Place in Time".

3. Select the Placemark tool in Google Earth and anchor the location of each of the photos in your Earth file.



Placemark

4. In the "Description" box that pops up with each new Placemark, name the Placemark with the date of the photograph. Include the photograph in the Placemark Description box by typing in the simple html image code `<img src ="URL of your photograph">`. Use the address or URL of the image as you "View Image" in your browser (right click or ctrl click on image to "view image").

5. Build out several more Placemarks and then highlight the "A Place in Time" Folder by clicking once. In the top Earth menu choose (File/Save/Save Place as) "kmz" to share with students.



6. As students take your "A Place in Time" tour, start the collaboration and analysis in Google Groups.



Placemark Description

Resource for images:  
The Digital Journalist  
[http://digitaljournalist.org/issue0309/lm\\_intro.html](http://digitaljournalist.org/issue0309/lm_intro.html)

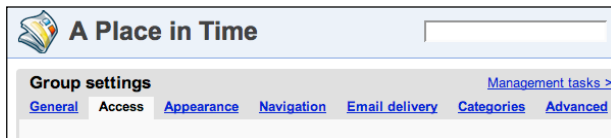
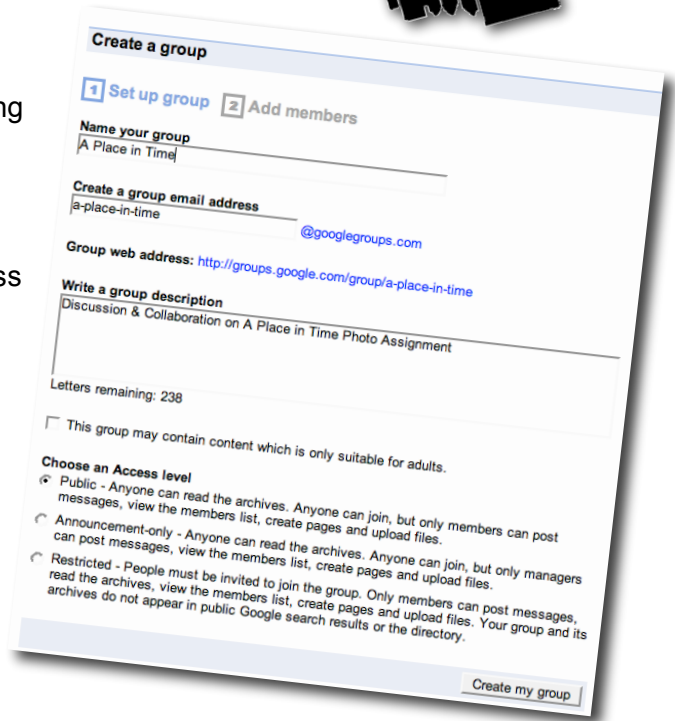


**Continue with Google Groups**

<http://groups.google.com/>

Set up a collaborative discussion board, encouraging students to research and discuss as they add their perspectives and information to the conversations over the photographs.

In Google Groups you can restrict or open up access levels and can invite or show your students how to join your group. Students can add "Pages" and "Files" to the group's discussions. As the group manager, you can set the access, change the appearance and manage many more aspects under "Group settings".



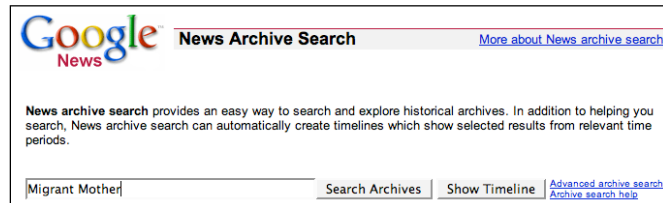
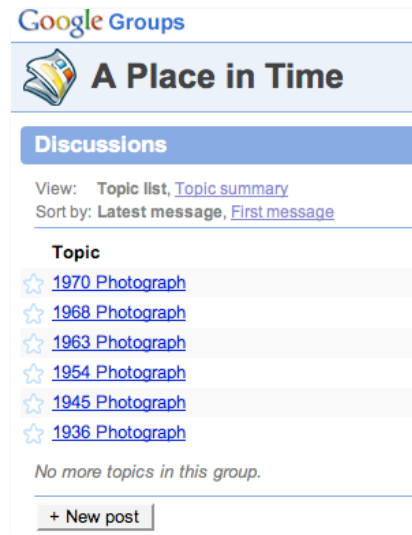
Collaboration questions might include:

1. What is the significance of the photograph?
2. What is the significance of the place where the photograph was taken?
3. Discuss how this photograph could have influenced an event in history or public opinion?
4. What does the research say about this photograph? Site that research.
5. What effects might photography or other media have on history?

**Adding research Google Search**

<http://news.google.com/archivesearch>

Direct your students to the Google News Search archives where they'll be able to access newspaper articles and create timelines covering the events depicted in the photos.



**Finish off the lesson** by having students create Google Earth "Places in Time" files by adding current or historic photographs that they believe have influenced events. Their continued collaboration on these issues will help them further understand and explore the role of media and images in our history.