Battles of WWI

OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES	GRADES

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11th

TIME

4-5 days

REQUIRED MATERIALS
- ✓ Computer projector
- ✓ Computer Internet access for students
- ✓ Textbook: Causes, Practices, Effects of Wars (Pearson IB)
- ✓ Handout: "GIS World War I Battles Map"

OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

Students will use ArcGIS Mapmaker to plot the location of four fronts and ten battles of World War I. They will provide descriptions outlining the importance of each front and battle. The purpose of this lesson is for students to visualize the location of the fronts and battles and see the scope and sequence of the war.

Students will be able to...
- Use GIS to plot the location of four fronts and ten battles of World War I.
- Describe the details of four fronts during WWI, including the combatants, style of warfare, and duration of battle.
- Describe the details of ten battles during WWI, including the dates, combatants, casualties, victors, and importance of the battle.

MINNESOTA SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS & BENCHMARKS

Standard 1. People use geographic representations and geospatial technologies to acquire, process and report information within a spatial context.
9.3.1.1.2 Apply geographic information from a variety of print and electronic sources to interpret the past and present and plan for the future; provide rationale for using specific technologies for each application.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE

Preparation
Students prepare for this lesson with background reading of Chapter 3, "World War I and Total War: Practices of World War I", from the textbook, Causes, Practices, Effects of Wars (Pearson IB). Students will have a basic understanding of the different theaters of WWI, but will lack the geospatial knowledge of the fronts and battles.

Opening
Ask students to describe where the western front was located. Most students will say it was in Belgium, France, and Germany, but lack detail in their answers. The teacher will show a map of the western front such as, "World I in Europe, 1914-1918" from The Mapshop at http://www.wall-maps.com/classroom/history/world-history/w77_wwi_westernfront.gif.

Development

The teacher will explain the importance of geospatial understandings of WWI: The scope of the war was massive, all of Europe was impacted, geography affected the course of the war, and battles were won and lost due to various reasons.

Hand out "GIS World War I Battles Map". Highlight key information including creating a public account, requirements for fronts and battles, saving, resources for battles, etc. Students work through the handout individually or with a partner.

Several obstacles may be anticipated:
•	If students work with a partner, make sure they know that ArcGIS Mapmaker is not a collaborative tool (doesn't work like Google docs), and that they will have to create an account that both of them can access. (WRITE DOWN THE LOGIN INFORMATION.)
•	Saving is extremely important; again, it's not like Google docs and doesn't save automatically.
•	Tagging allows their map to be searchable. Their tags should be relevant (i.e., tell students not to tag their maps with 'swag' because it's nonsense).
•	All instructions have been tested on both a PC and Mac. They are written very carefully, so tell students to follow them carefully. Very few questions should come up as long as they've followed the directions.

Students should work for two to three days in the lab. The teacher should provide daily reminders about pacing and following the directions; these reminders may be necessary based on how well students understand the GIS tool.

Closing

Complete a class discussion about the lesson:
•	What did you learn about GIS?
•	What are the uses/values of this technology?
•	How did this change your understanding about the battles of WWI?

Assessments:
"GIS World War I Battles Map" handout

WEBSITE RESOURCES

"World I in Europe, 1914-1918" at The Mapshop
http://www.wall-maps.com/classroom/history/world-history/w77_wwi_westernfront.gif

"The Great War: And the Shaping of the 20th Century"
http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/maps/

"Battles" at FirstWorldWar.com
http://www.firstworldwar.com/battles/

GIS World War I Battles Map

Purpose:

GIS, or Geographic Information Systems, is used to add important information to maps. The purpose of this assignment is to create a map of important battles that includes key details such as casualties, weaponry, and victor. By using GIS all of the information is stored on one online map rather than several cluttered paper maps.

Directions:

1. Go to www.arcgis.com; click on SIGN IN on the top right side of the page.
2. Select CREATE A PUBLIC ACCOUNT on the left. Fill in all fields (phone number does not have to be valid). REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE TERMS OF USE. Choose CREATE MY ACCOUNT

> **Note, you are working with a partner, but it is unnecessary to create two separate accounts. Just make sure you both write down the username and password so both partners can access the information**

3. Select **MAP** from the menu at the top of the page.
4. Center the map over Europe using the mouse to drag the image to the left.
5. Use the **Add** dropdown and select **Search for Layers**; type *1914* in the search field and press **GO**. Select Add for Mapa_Europa_1914 (Features)
   a. You can change the transparency of the map layer by closing the 'Search for Layers' screen on the left; click on the arrow next to Mapa Europa 1914. A menu will appear and you can select **Transparency** to be able to see through the layer; 25% is a good level of transparency.

> **You should now have an orange layer over your map with the 1914 borders**

6. Use the **Add** dropdown and select Add Map Notes. In the Name field type 'Fronts'; do not make changes to Template. Click CREATE
   a. Use the **Freehand Line** tool to carefully draw each of the following frontlines: Western Front, Eastern Front; Italian Front; Salonika Front
      i. After you draw each line, add a *title* and description including *dates*, *combatants*, and *a general description of the type/style of warfare used on the front*.
      ii. Use a different color for each front – you can change the color or thickness of the line by clicking on the line to open a menu. Select CHANGE SYMBOL to view editing options

> **You should now have four different colored front lines on your map with detailed descriptions**

7. Use the **Add** dropdown and select Add Map Notes. In the Name field type 'Battles'; do not make changes to Template. Click CREATE
   a. Use the **Stickpin** OR **Pushpin** tool to carefully locate 10 of the 14 battles listed below. Please note: battles with a ** symbol are required.
      i. After placing each pin, add a *title* and a description including *dates, combatants (key people included), victors, casualties (dead and wounded for each side),* and *an explanation of what made the battle important (type of warfare, weaponry, turning points, etc.)*

ii. Coordinate the colors of battles according to the color of the front where they took place. (If the eastern front is red on your map, all pushpins for eastern front battles should also be red.) Follow the directions for changing the color of the front lines from step 6. a. ii. above.

Battles to choose:

- Battle of the Marne**
- Battle of the Somme
- Battle of Verdun
- First Battle of Ypres
- Second Battle of Ypres
- Third Battle of Ypres
- Battle of Vimy Ridge

- Battle of Stalluponen
- Battle of Tannenberg
- Battle of Gumbinnen
- Gallipoli Campaign**
- Battle of Caporetto
- Battle of Vittorio Veneto
- Battle of Jutland**

You should now have a map with four fronts, ten battles, and descriptions of each

8. Save your map by clicking the **Save** dropdown on the top of your map. Type a map title using the following format: **WWI Battles; [your name(s)], class period**. You will also need to provide tags and a summary; tags should include your teacher's name, wwi, and battles; summary can simply be 'map of fronts'.
9. When you are 100% done with steps 1-8, you must share your map with your instructor. Click the **Share** option from the menu above your map. Click the box to make your map public [**Everyone(public)**]. Copy the link for your map.
   a. To share with your teacher, paste the link into the shared Google doc for your class period: **http://tinyurl.com/kfyyxuy**

Resources:

- Chapter 3, "World War I and Total War: Practices of World War I", from the textbook, *Causes, Practices, Effects of Wars* (Pearson IB).
- "The Great War: And the Shaping of the 20th Century" at PBS (http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/maps/)
- "Battles" at FirstWorldWar.com (http://www.firstworldwar.com/battles/)