



LEGENDS

THE LEGENDS FACILITATOR'S TOOLKIT

3. Collaborative Digital Storytelling



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Funded by the European Union. However, the opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union or the Erasmus+ National Agency (INDIRE). Neither the European Union nor the funding authority can be held responsible for them.
Project Number: 2025-1-IT02-KA220-ADU-000352101

How to use this Resource

This guidebook is a practical companion to the **Collaborative Digital Storytelling** module. It gives the facilitator everything they need to understand, teach, and troubleshoot each digital tool used in the activities. Facilitators do not need to be technology experts to use this guide. Each section is written in plain language and structured so you can find what you need quickly.



How to use this Resource: a note on skill levels

The module defines three skill levels for each activity: Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced.

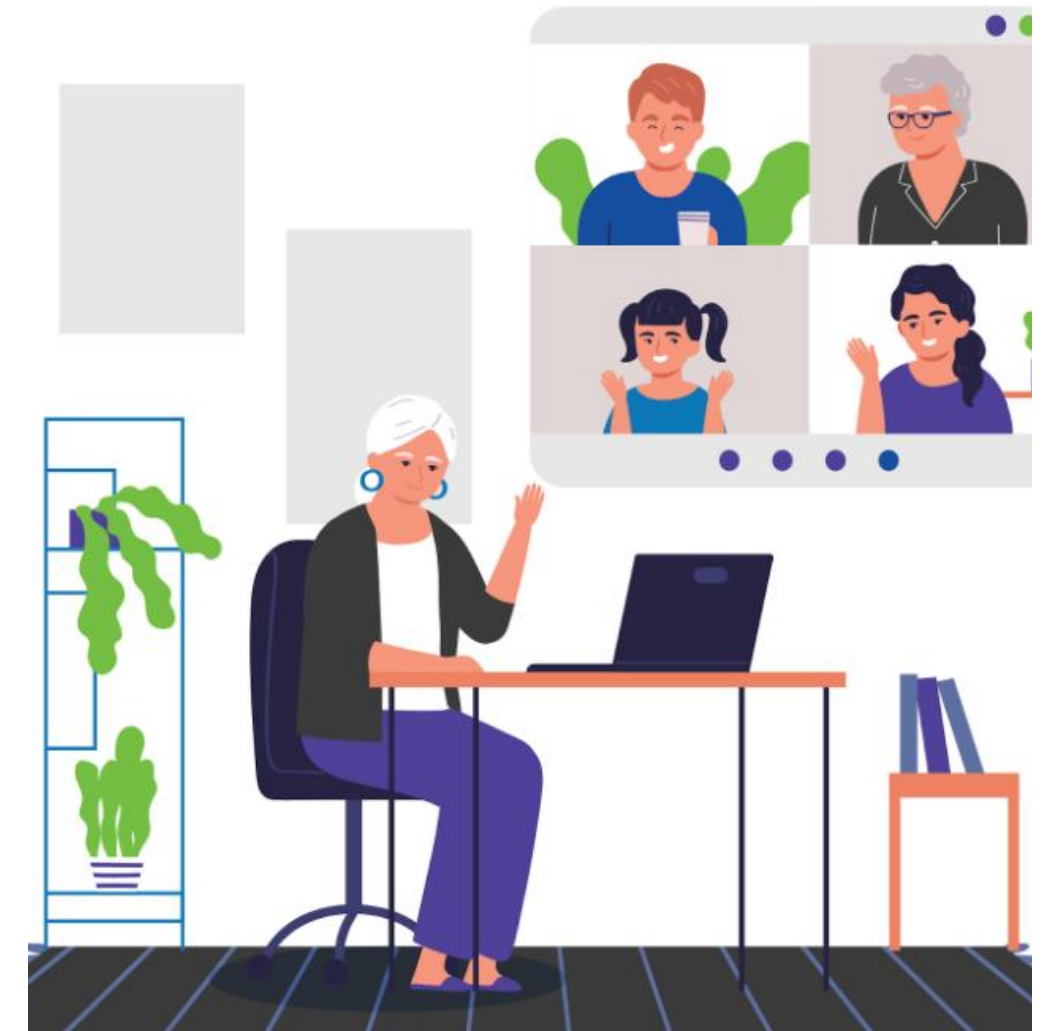
The tools in this guide map onto those levels as follows:

Basic: Paper maps, printed screenshots, verbal narration, no app required

Intermediate: Google Slides or Canva, simple drag-and-drop tools, free accounts

Advanced: ArcGIS StoryMaps or Google My Maps, more features, slightly steeper learning curve

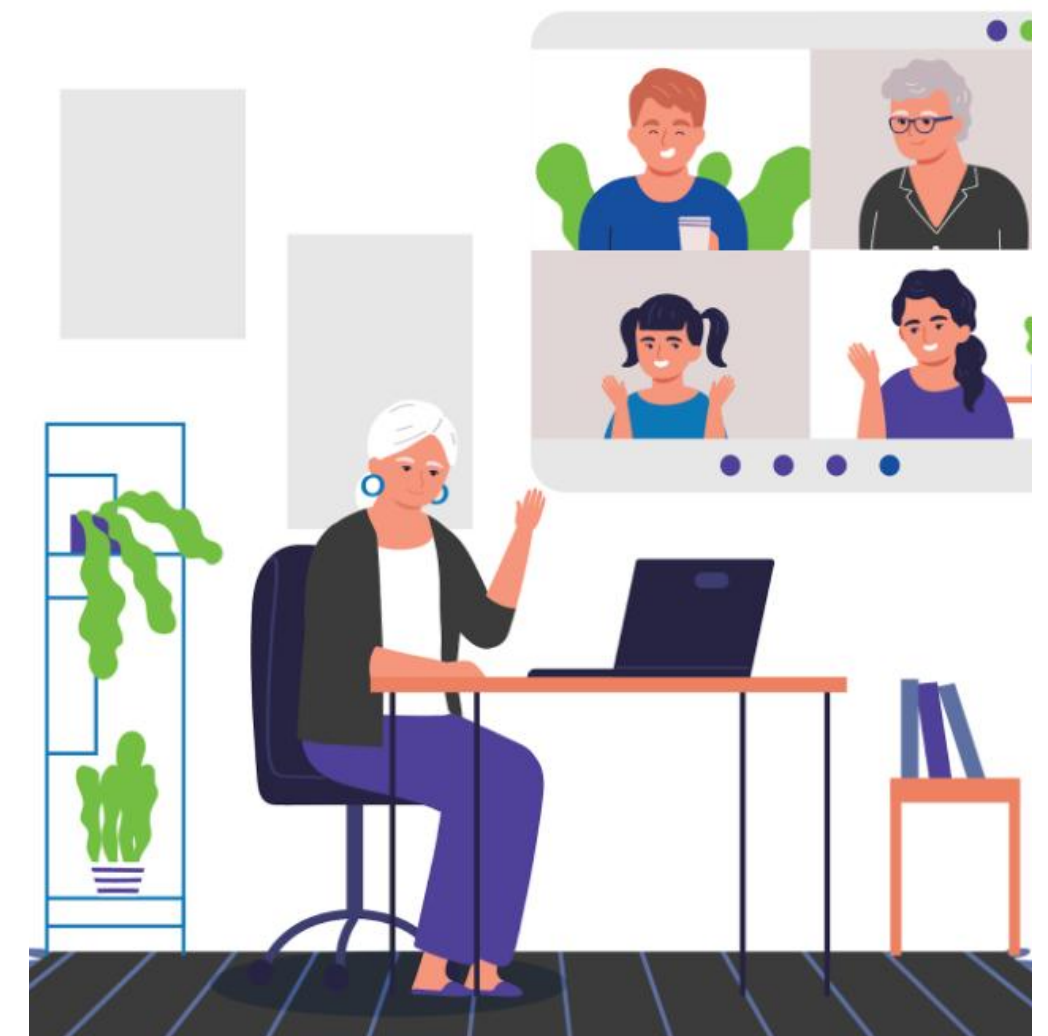
“Remember! There is no need to use every tool. Read through each section, decide which fits your group's comfort level, and focus your preparation there”.



How to use this Resource: how each tool section is organized

Every tool section follows the same structure:

- **What it is:** a plain-language description of the tool and what it is designed for
- **At a Glance:** key facts such as platform availability, account requirements, and pricing at a single glance
- **Why it matters for Collaborative Digital Storytelling:** how the tool connects to the activities in the module
- **Tips for facilitators:** tested advice for smooth sessions
- **Pricing overview:** a clear breakdown of free and paid options
- **Helpful links:** curated tutorials, help pages, and video guides



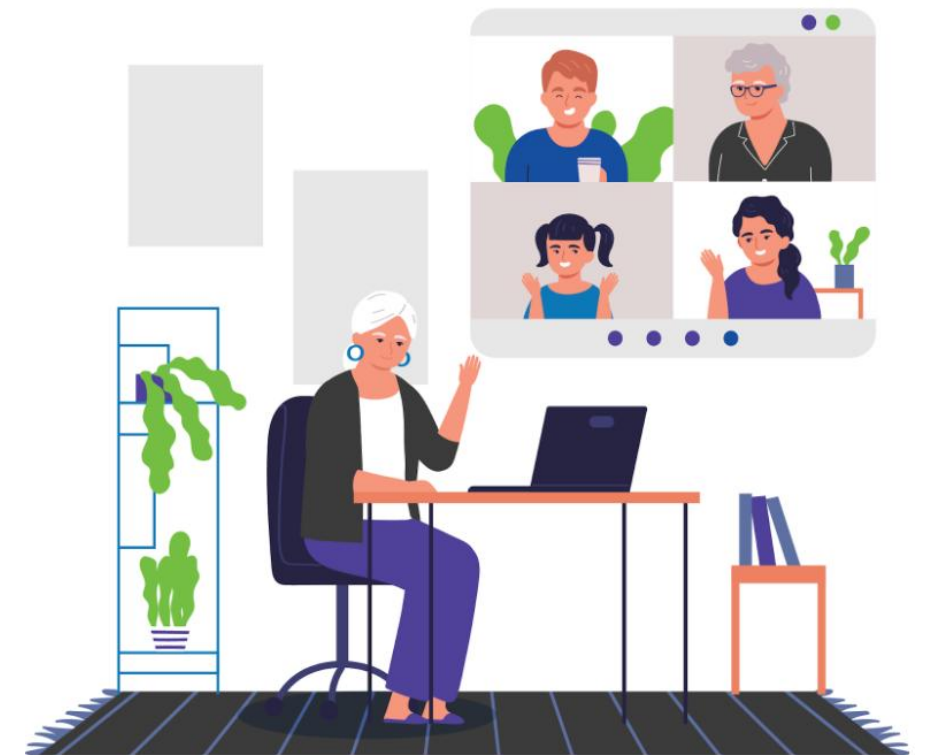
Create and share custom interactive maps. No GIS expertise needed

What is Google My Maps?

Google My Maps is a free, browser-based tool that lets anyone build a personalised, shareable map on top of Google's familiar satellite and street-level imagery.

Unlike the standard Google Maps application, which is for navigation, My Maps is a creation tool. You can add pins, draw shapes, write descriptions, attach photographs, and embed links, turning a map into a layered, visual story about a place.

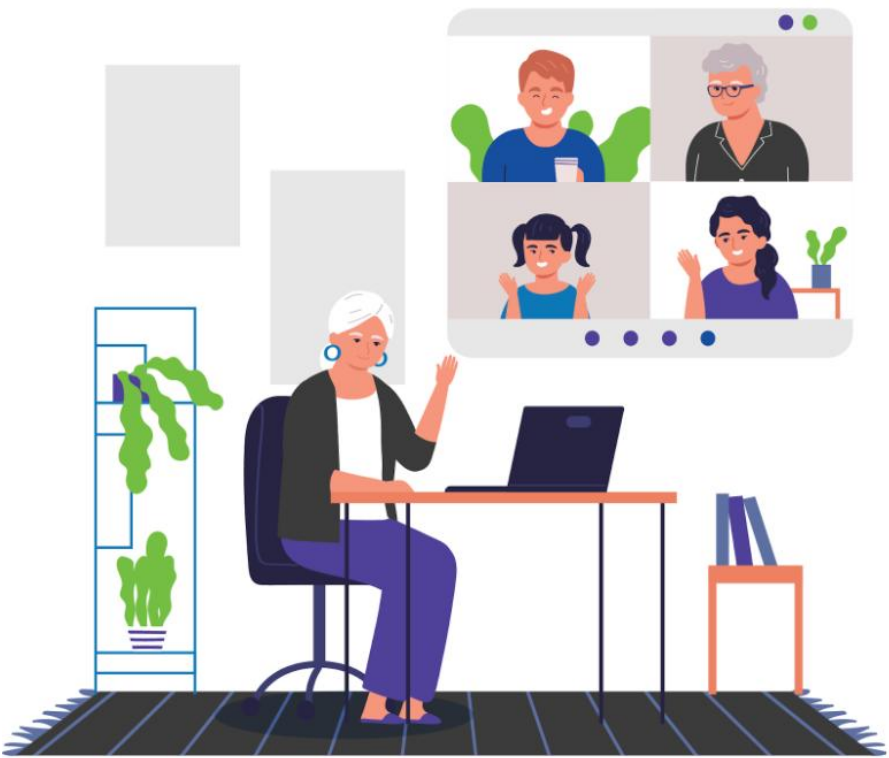
For urban storytelling, My Maps is ideal because it requires no installation, works on any device with a browser, and produces maps that participants can view on their own phones without needing an account. A facilitator can create a 'base' map before the session, then invite participants to add their own story pins during the activity.



Create and share custom interactive maps. No GIS expertise needed

At a Glance

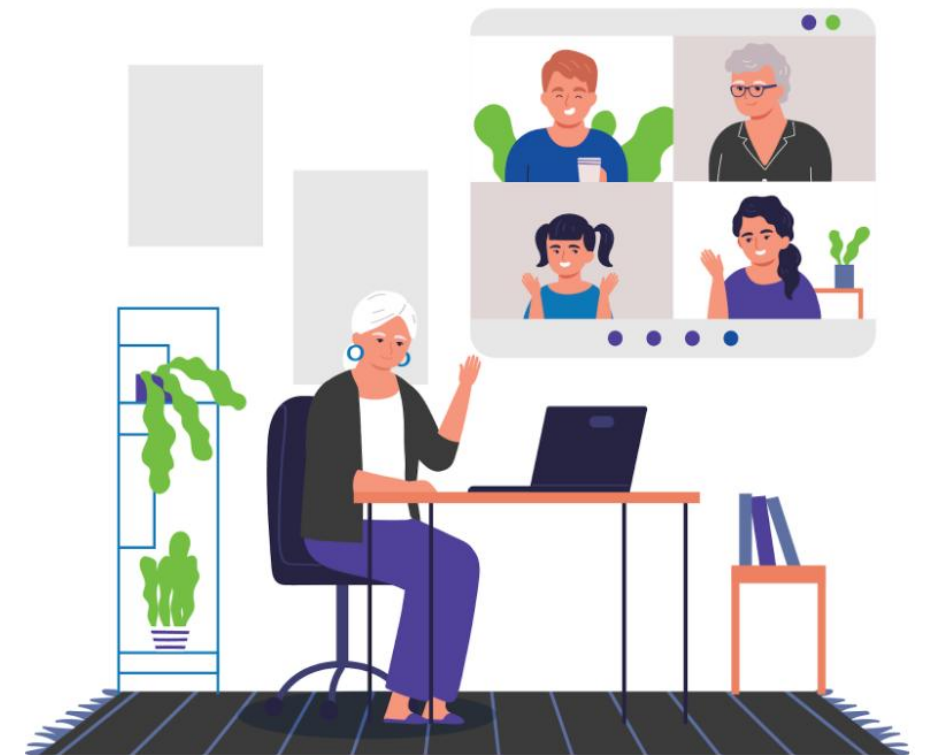
Website	mymaps.google.com
Platform	Web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Edge) + Google Maps mobile app
Account required?	Yes (a free Google account is required to create and edit maps)
Cost to create	Free
Cost to view	Free (shared maps can be viewed without an account)
Offline use	Limited (maps must be prepared online; viewing offline is possible via the mobile app)
Best for	Intermediate to Advanced skill level; also accessible to Basic users with facilitator support



Create and share custom interactive maps. No GIS expertise needed

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

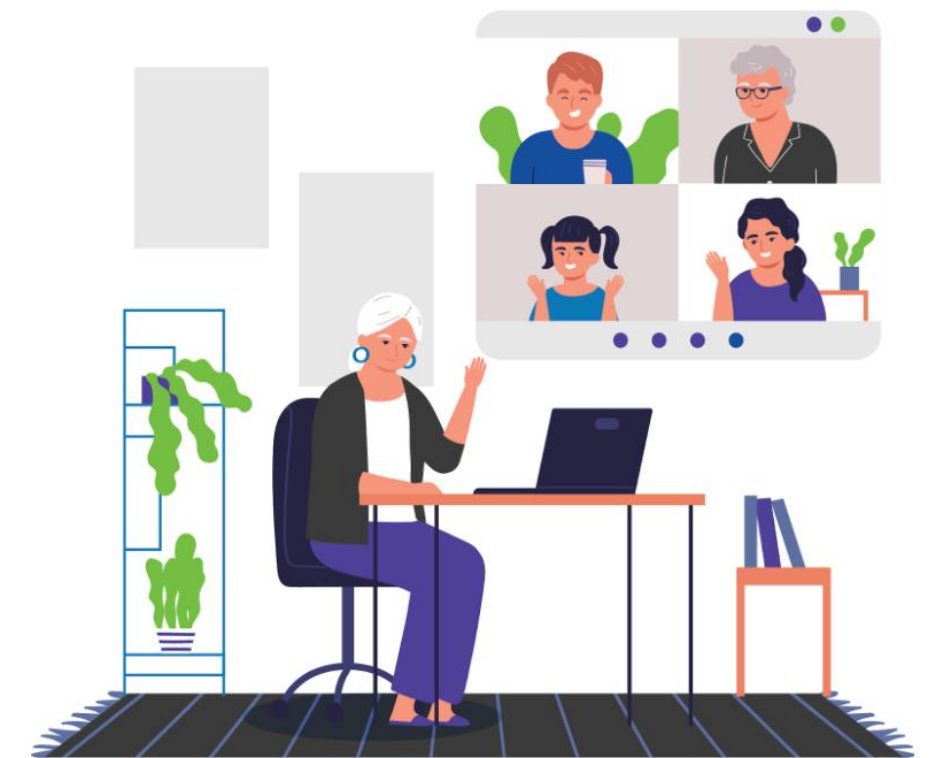
The module's place-based activities rely on participants being able to see a location, both as it is today and as it was in the past. Google Maps provides the navigational anchor, and Street View's historical timeline slider is the key feature that brings the 'then and now' comparison to life. Without it, facilitators would need to source and print archive photographs in advance; with it, the comparison is available on any smartphone in real time



Create and share custom interactive maps. No GIS expertise needed

Tips for Facilitators

- Create the base map with the key neighbourhood locations before the session. Participants should spend their time adding stories, not learning navigation.
- Test the share link on a mobile phone before the session. Some network configurations block Google services.
- If participants do not have Google accounts, they can still view the map via the share link, and you can add their story pins on their behalf during the session.
- Print a screenshot of the map as a backup for participants who have difficulty with devices or connectivity.



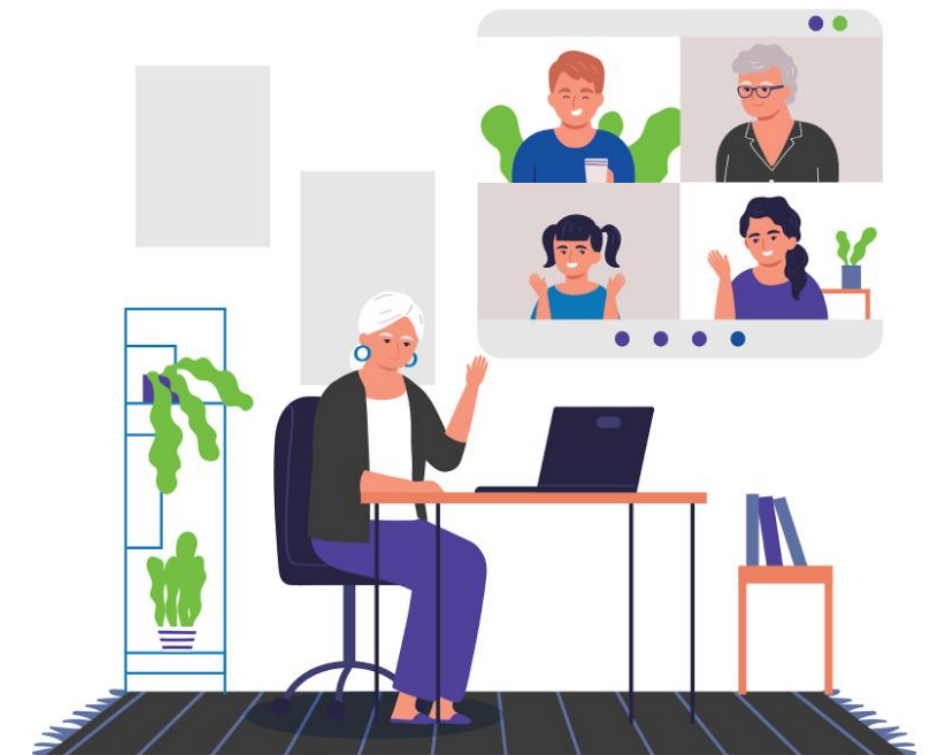
Create and share custom interactive maps. No GIS expertise needed

Pricing Overview

- ✓ FREE — Google My Maps is completely free for all users. There is no paid tier.
- ✓ FREE — Viewing shared maps requires no account and no payment.
- ✓ FREE — Embedding maps on websites is free.
- i The only requirement is a free Google account to create or edit a map.
- i Google Workspace (paid, for organizations) offers additional collaboration features, but is not needed for this module.

Helpful Links

-  Google My Maps homepage: <https://mymaps.google.com>
-  Official Google My Maps Help Centre: <https://support.google.com/mymaps>
-  Getting started tutorial (Google): <https://support.google.com/mymaps/answer/3024454>
-  Video: Create a custom map in My Maps (YouTube):
https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=google+my+maps+tutorial+beginners

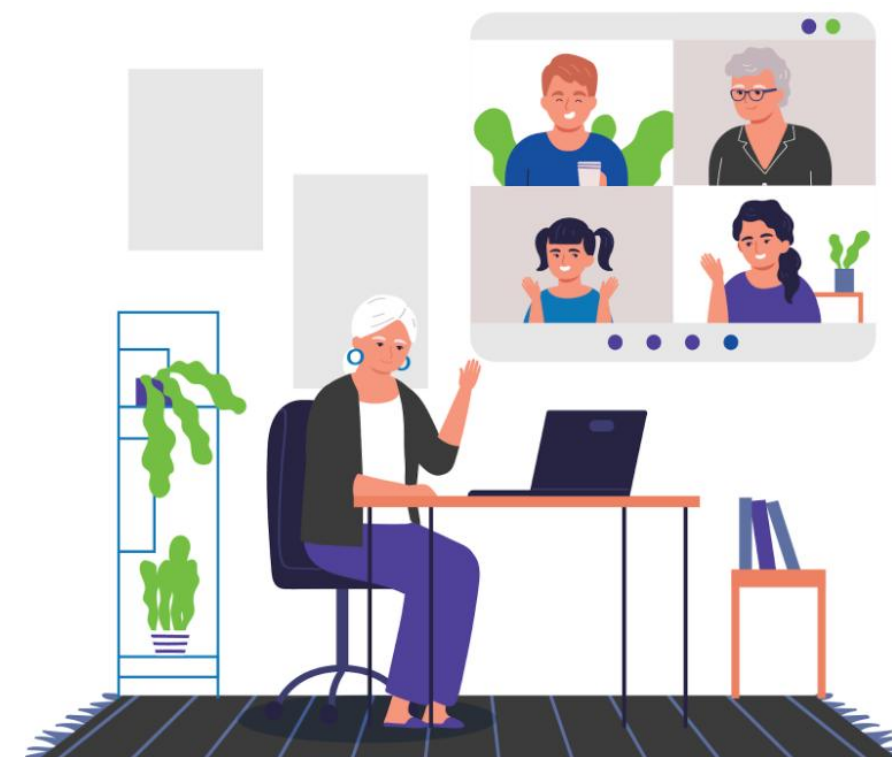


Free mobile video editor — trim, combine, and caption your digital stories with ease

What is CapCut?

CapCut is a free mobile video editing app developed by ByteDance (the company behind TikTok). It is designed to be beginner-friendly while offering a surprisingly wide range of editing features, trimming and merging clips, adding text overlays and captions, adjusting audio levels, applying filters, and exporting finished videos in high quality. It is available as a free download on both iPhone and Android and requires no prior video editing experience.

For digital storytelling, CapCut sits at the 'more advanced' end of the module's skill spectrum. The module describes it as a tool that allows participants to experiment with combining different media once they are comfortable with the basics of smartphone capture and voice recording. A participant who has filmed a short clip and recorded a voice narration can use CapCut to join them together, add a title card, and export a polished short story in under 15 minutes.



Free mobile video editor — trim, combine, and caption your digital stories with ease

At a Glance

App name	CapCut
Developer	ByteDance
Platform	iOS (iPhone/iPad) and Android — free download; also available as a web editor at capcut.com
Account required?	Optional — you can edit and export without an account; an account is needed to save projects to the cloud
Cost	Free. CapCut Pro subscription available but not needed for basic storytelling tasks
Offline use	Yes — editing works fully offline. Internet needed only for cloud saving or exporting to social media
Best for	Advanced skill level; participants comfortable with smartphones who want to go beyond photos and slides
Video export quality	Up to 4K — standard 1080p is ideal for sharing and projection



Free mobile video editor — trim, combine, and caption your digital stories with ease

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

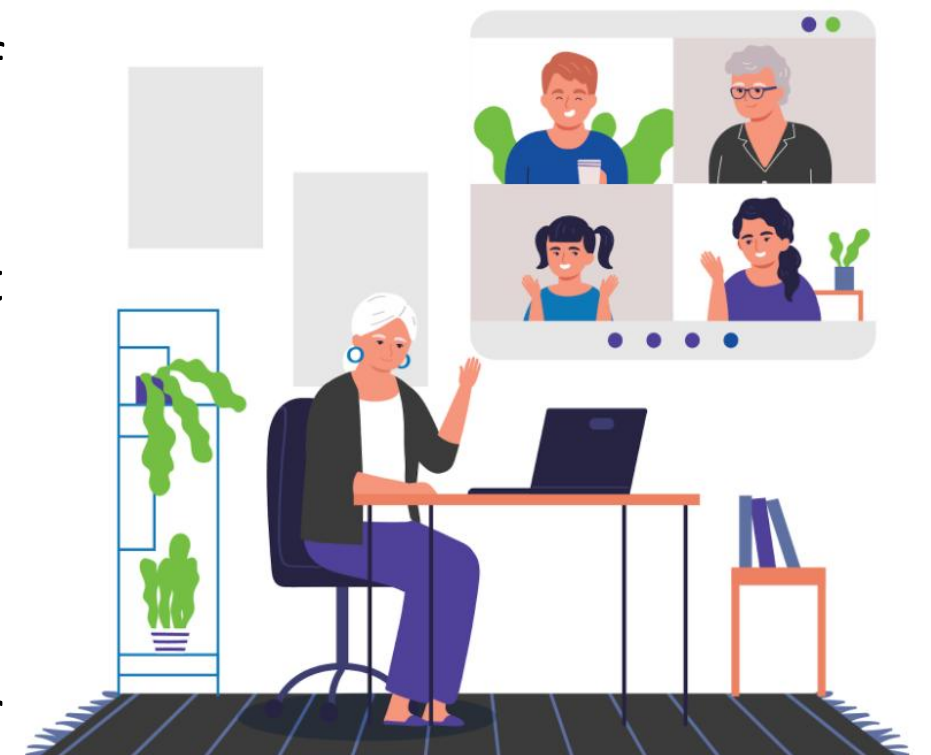
Both activities in the module ask participants to move beyond a single photo or audio clip and combine media into a finished short story. CapCut is the tool that makes this possible on a smartphone alone. In Activity 1 (A Place Then and Now), a participant can import a Street View screenshot, lay their audio narration over it, add a title card, and export a shareable video in under 15 minutes. It is the step that turns a collection of separate recordings and images into something a participant can play back, share, and be proud of.



Free mobile video editor — trim, combine, and caption your digital stories with ease

Tips for Facilitators

- Before the session, create a short 30-second test video yourself using CapCut. Even a simple clip with one photo, one caption, and one line of voiceover will give you enough hands-on familiarity to guide participants through the steps.
- CapCut's auto-captions feature (under 'Text > Auto captions') can automatically transcribe spoken audio into on-screen subtitles. This is useful for accessibility and for participants who are hard of hearing.
- If participants are nervous about losing their work, encourage them to save their project immediately after importing clips. Projects auto-save locally, but tapping the back arrow and confirming 'Save' ensures nothing is lost.
- The 'Templates' section of CapCut offers ready-made video formats where participants just swap in their own photos. This is a good starting point for participants who find the full editor overwhelming.
- Exported videos can be shared directly via WhatsApp, email, or AirDrop, no account or internet connection required for local sharing.



Free mobile video editor — trim, combine, and caption your digital stories with ease

Pricing Overview

☑ FREE CapCut is free to download and use. Core editing features are fully free with no time limit.

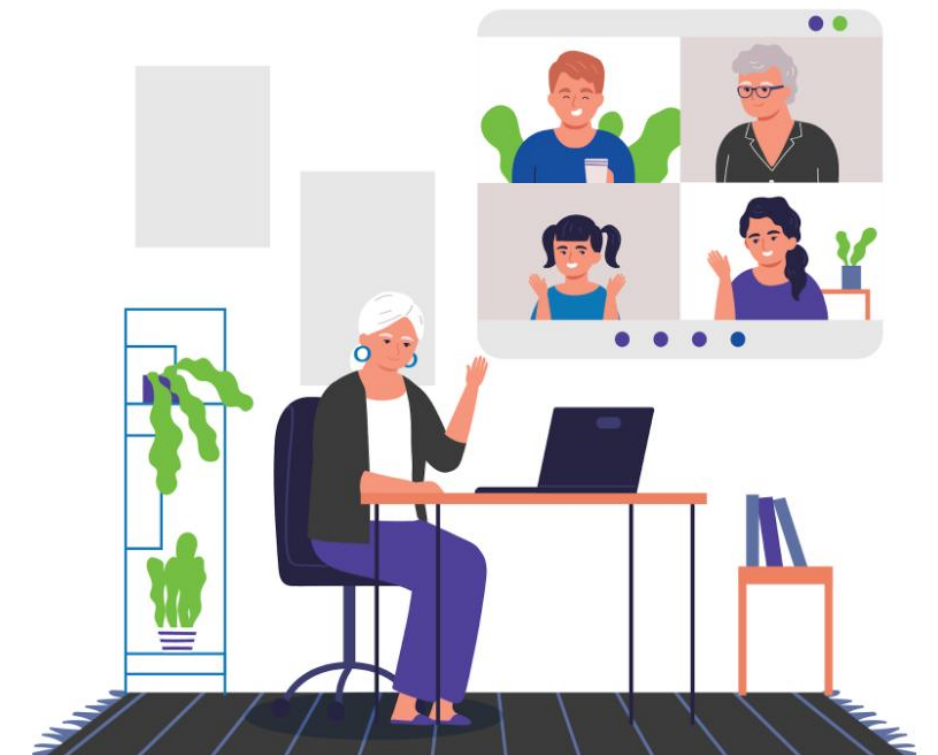
💰 CapCut Pro: subscription plan offering premium templates, AI tools, and extra effects. Not required for any module activity.

ℹ No watermark on exported videos — unlike some free editors, CapCut does not add a logo to your finished video (as of 2024/25).

ℹ [The free version](#) is fully sufficient for all digital storytelling activities in this module.

Helpful Links

- 🔗 CapCut iOS app (App Store): <https://apps.apple.com/app/capcut-video-editor/id1500855883>
- 🔗 CapCut Android app (Google Play): <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.lemon.lvideo>
- 🔗 CapCut web editor: <https://www.capcut.com>
- 🔗 CapCut beginner tutorial (YouTube — as referenced in the module): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5_471mO14c
- 🔗 CapCut Help Centre: <https://capcut.com/resource/capcut-help-center>



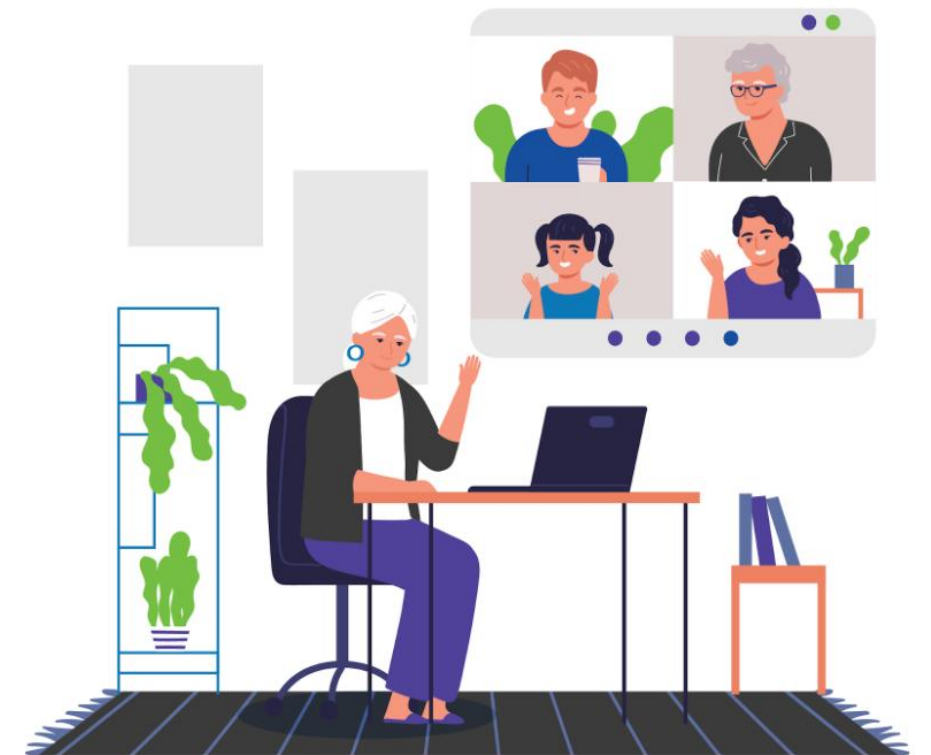
Voice Recording Apps

Capture narrations and oral histories directly on a smartphone — no extra equipment needed

What are Voice Recording Apps?

Every modern smartphone comes with a built-in voice recording app pre-installed — no download required. On iPhones it is called Voice Memos; on Android devices, it is called Recorder (on Google Pixel phones) or Voice Recorder (on Samsung and most other Android brands). These apps use the phone's microphone to capture clear audio recordings, which can then be saved, renamed, trimmed, and shared directly from the device.

Voice recording is the most accessible form of digital storytelling in the module. It requires no design skills, no internet connection, and minimal technical setup. The module identifies audio recording as the core activity of the 'Sounds of My Object' session and as a key component of every other activity. Participants record their narrations on their phones and those recordings are then combined with images in tools like Canva, Google Slides, or CapCut.



Capture narrations and oral histories directly on a smartphone — no extra equipment needed

At a Glance

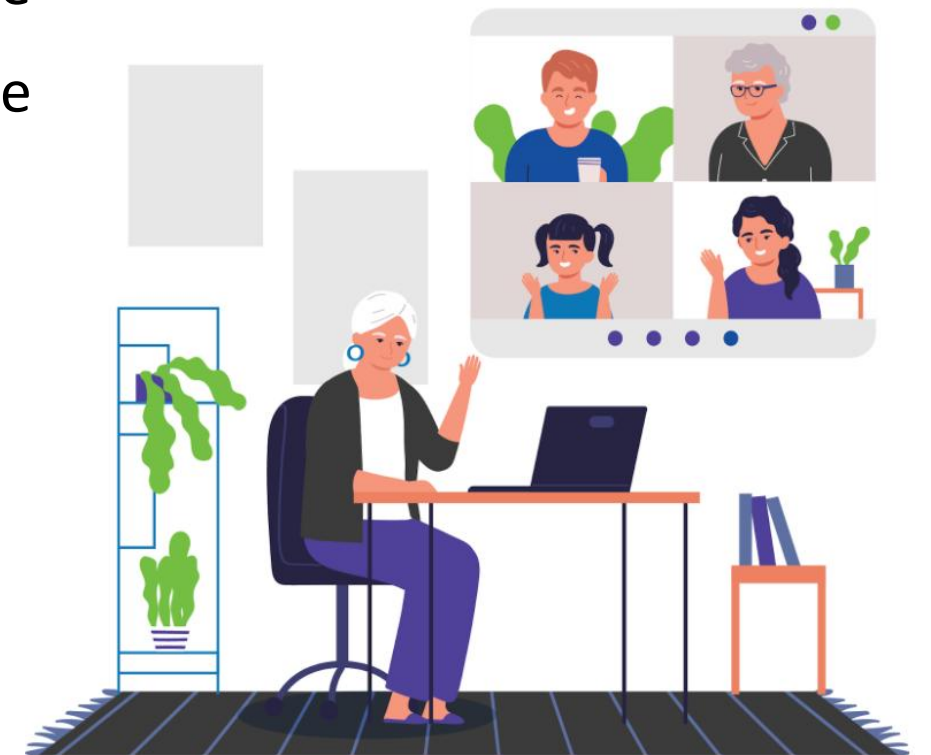
App name	Voice Memos
Device	iPhone and iPad (pre-installed — no download needed)
Account required?	No
Cost	Free — built into iOS
File format	M4A (compatible with Canva, Google Slides, PowerPoint, and CapCut)
Offline use	Yes — fully offline. Recordings save to the device automatically
Sharing	Share directly via Airdrop, Messages, WhatsApp, email, or save to Files/iCloud Drive



Capture narrations and oral histories directly on a smartphone — no extra equipment needed

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

Audio narration is the backbone of every activity in this module. Before any image is combined, any map is annotated, or any video is edited, a participant's voice needs to be captured clearly. Voice recording apps are the first tool every participant uses — and often the one that matters most, because the recordings they make here are the raw material for everything else.



Capture narrations and oral histories directly on a smartphone — no extra equipment needed

Tips for Facilitators

- Do a sound check at the start of every session. Background noise, air conditioning, traffic, and other conversations can make recordings hard to hear when played back through a projector speaker. Move to a quieter area if needed.
- Encourage participants to record two versions of each narration, a practice run and a final take. The practice run often helps the speaker find their natural voice and pace before committing to the final recording.
- If a participant's phone does not have a built-in recorder, or it is not working, the facilitator's phone can be used as a shared recording device, with recordings shared afterwards via WhatsApp or AirDrop.
- M4A files (from iPhone) and MP3 files (from Android) are both compatible with Canva, Google Slides, PowerPoint, and CapCut. If a participant encounters a format error, the free online tool [Cloudconvert.com](https://cloudconvert.com) can convert between audio formats in seconds.
- For participants with physical difficulty holding a phone steady, prop it against a book or stand it in a small stand. Even a folded piece of card can serve as a simple phone holder to stabilize the microphone.



Voice Recording Apps

Capture narrations and oral histories directly on a smartphone — no extra equipment needed

Pricing Overview

- ☑ FREE — Voice Memos (iPhone) is completely free and pre-installed. No download needed.
- ☑ FREE — Recorder / Voice Recorder (Android) is completely free and pre-installed on most devices.
- ☑ FREE — Easy Voice Recorder (Android, if needed): free tier covers all basic recording and sharing needs.
- ℹ No paid tier is needed for any recording task in this module.

Helpful Links

- 🔗 iPhone Voice Memos guide (Apple Support — as referenced in the module): <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/voice-memos/welcome/mac>
- 🔗 Android Recorder app guide (YouTube tutorial — as referenced in the module): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ge-gxNHyoWg>
- 🔗 Easy Voice Recorder (Android alternative, Google Play):
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.coffeebeanventures.easyvoicerecorder>
- 🔗 How to share files from iPhone (Apple Support): <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/iphone/iph7c3d96bab/ios>



Explore streets at ground level and travel back in time with historical imagery

What is Google Street View?

Google Street View is a feature of Google Maps that provides 360-degree, ground-level photographic panoramas of streets, public spaces, and landmarks across the world. Users can virtually 'walk' through locations by clicking arrows on the screen to move along a street, rotate to look in any direction, and zoom in on details. Street View is embedded directly into Google Maps and is also accessible at street-view-dedicated URLs.

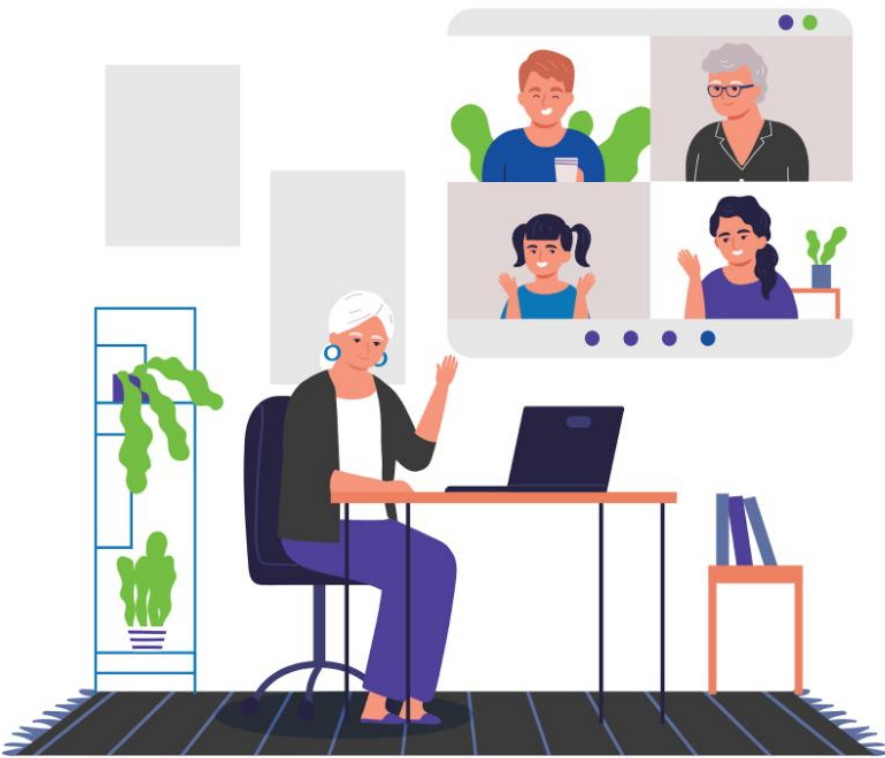
For this module, the most powerful feature of Google Street View is its historical imagery archive. By dragging a timeline slider in the top-left corner of the Street View interface, users can see what the same location looked like in previous years, sometimes going back to 2007 or earlier. This makes Street View an invaluable tool for the 'then and now' comparative photography activity at the heart of Activity 2.



Explore streets at ground level and travel back in time with historical imagery

At a Glance

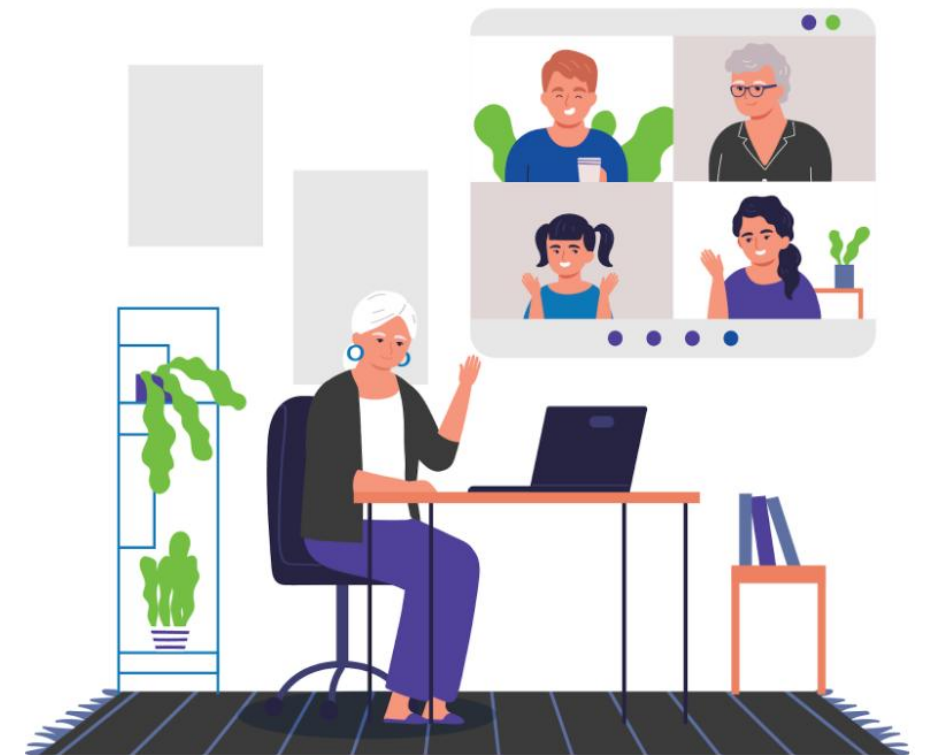
Access via	maps.google.com (desktop/browser) or the Google Maps mobile app
Account required?	No (Street View can be used without a Google account. An account is needed to contribute photos).
Cost	Completely free
Mobile app	Google Maps (iOS and Android), free download
Offline use	No (requires an active internet connection)
Historical imagery	Available for most urban areas, going back to approximately 2007–2009
Best for	All skill levels: Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced



Explore streets at ground level and travel back in time with historical imagery

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

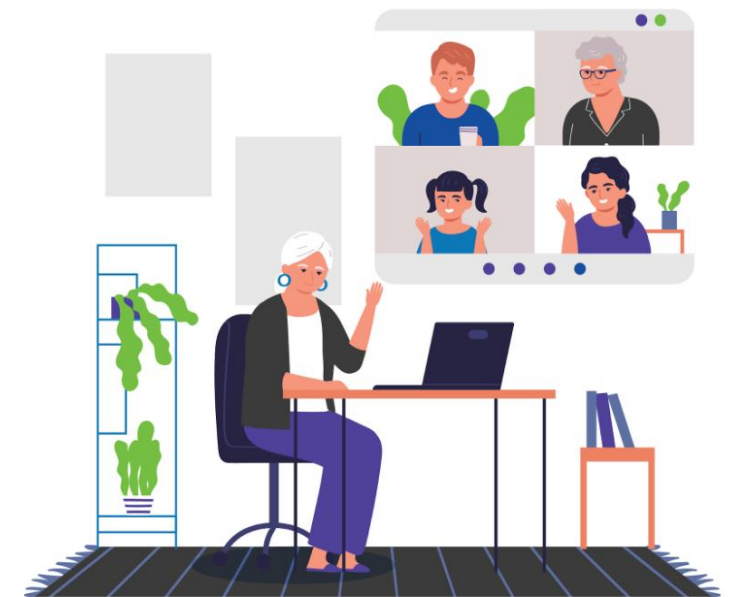
The module's place-based activities rely on participants being able to see a location, both as it is today and as it was in the past. Google Maps provides the navigational anchor, and Street View's historical timeline slider is the key feature that brings the 'then and now' comparison to life. Without it, facilitators would need to source and print archive photographs in advance; with it, the comparison is available on any smartphone in real time



Explore streets at ground level and travel back in time with historical imagery

Tips for Facilitators

- Before the session, check whether historical Street View imagery is available for your chosen neighbourhood. Coverage varies; urban centres in Western Europe typically have imagery going back to 2008–2010, while some suburban or rural areas may have fewer historical frames.
- The timeline slider is the most important feature to demonstrate at the start of Activity 2. Take two minutes to show the group how to drag it back in time before pairs begin working independently. The module specifically recommends this as a technique to 'remove the main technical barrier'.
- If the chosen location does not have historical Street View imagery, use a nearby main street or well-documented public space that does. Historical coverage is almost always better on major roads.
- For offline or low-connectivity situations, take screenshots of both the historical and current views of two or three key locations before the session and print or save them for distribution.
- Participants can also contribute their own 360-degree photographs to Google Street View using the Google Street View Studio, a free web tool at streetviewstudio.maps.google.com, making the activity a genuine contribution to public urban memory.





Google Street View

Explore streets at ground level and travel back in time with historical imagery

Pricing Overview

- ☑ FREE — Google Street View is completely free to use. No account is required to view.
- ☑ FREE — The Google Maps app (which includes Street View) is free on iOS and Android.
- ☑ FREE — Street View Studio (for contributing your own 360° photos) is free with a Google account.
- ℹ There are no paid tiers for the Street View features used in this module.
- ℹ The Google Maps Platform API (for developers building applications) is a paid service, but this is not relevant to the module activities.

Helpful Links

- 🔗 Google Maps (access Street View here): <https://maps.google.com>
- 🔗 Google Street View Studio (contribute photos): <https://streetviewstudio.maps.google.com>
- 🔗 Google Street View Help Centre: <https://support.google.com/maps/answer/3093484>
- 🔗 How to use Street View historical imagery (Google Help): <https://support.google.com/maps/answer/6394304>
- 🔗 Google Maps iOS app: <https://apps.apple.com/app/google-maps/id585027354>
- 🔗 Google Maps Android app: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.maps>

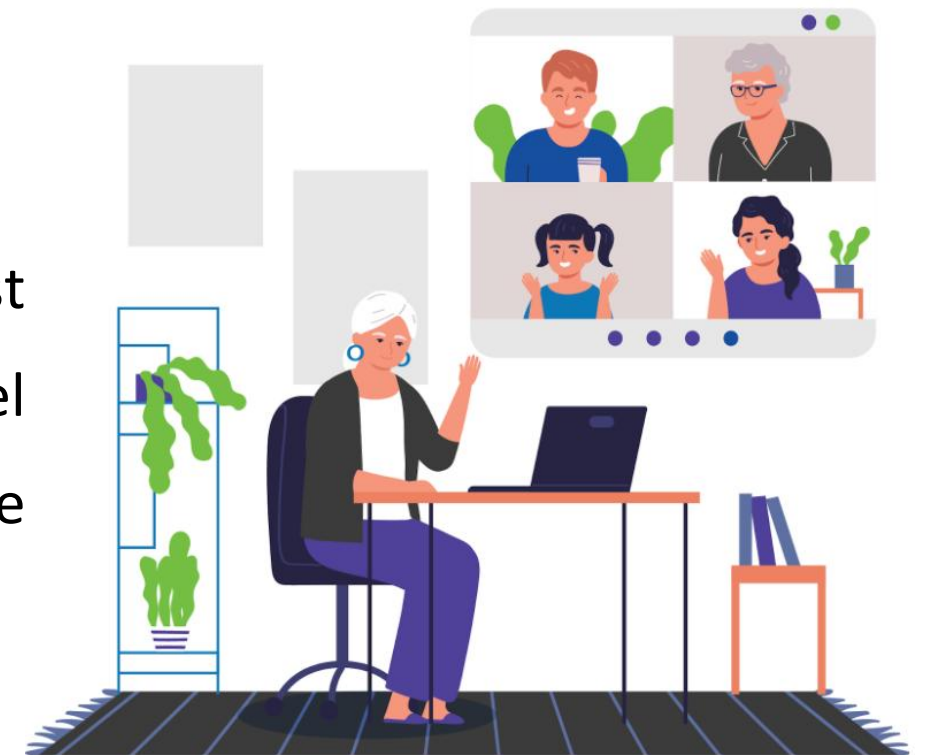


Collaborative, browser-based presentations; the simplest route from story to screen

What is Google Slides?

Google Slides is a free, browser-based presentation application included in Google Workspace. It functions similarly to Microsoft PowerPoint but runs entirely online, which means participants can work on the same presentation simultaneously from different devices, a major advantage in collaborative workshop settings. There is nothing to install, and documents are saved automatically to Google Drive every few seconds.

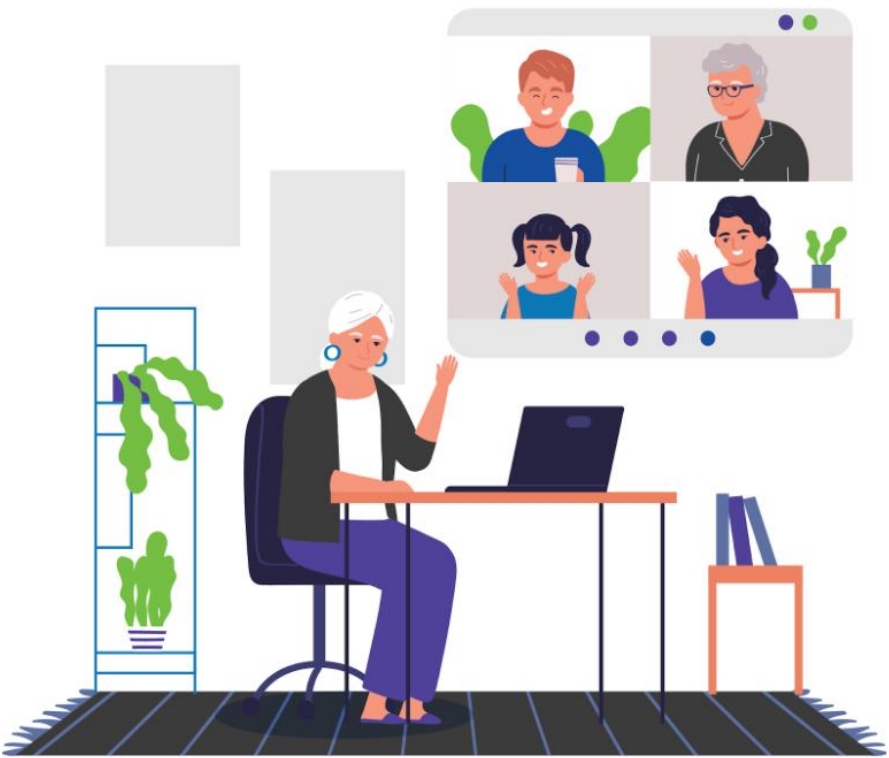
Google Slides is familiar to most participants who have used a school or office computer in the past decade. Its interface is intentionally simple, making it an ideal choice for the Intermediate skill level activities in this module, where the goal is to create a clear, two or three-slide visual story without the distraction of advanced design features.



Collaborative, browser-based presentations; the simplest route from story to screen

At a Glance

Website	slides.google.com (or access via Google Drive at drive.google.com)
Mobile apps	Google Slides app, free on iOS and Android
Account required?	Yes (a free Google account is required to create. Viewers do not need an account).
Cost	Completely free for individuals. Google Workspace (paid) for organizations adds admin tools.
Offline use	Possible with the Chrome browser extension enabled, or via the mobile app
Collaboration	Real-time multi-user editing, up to 100 simultaneous editors on one file
Best for	Intermediate skill level; also suitable for Basic users with facilitator support

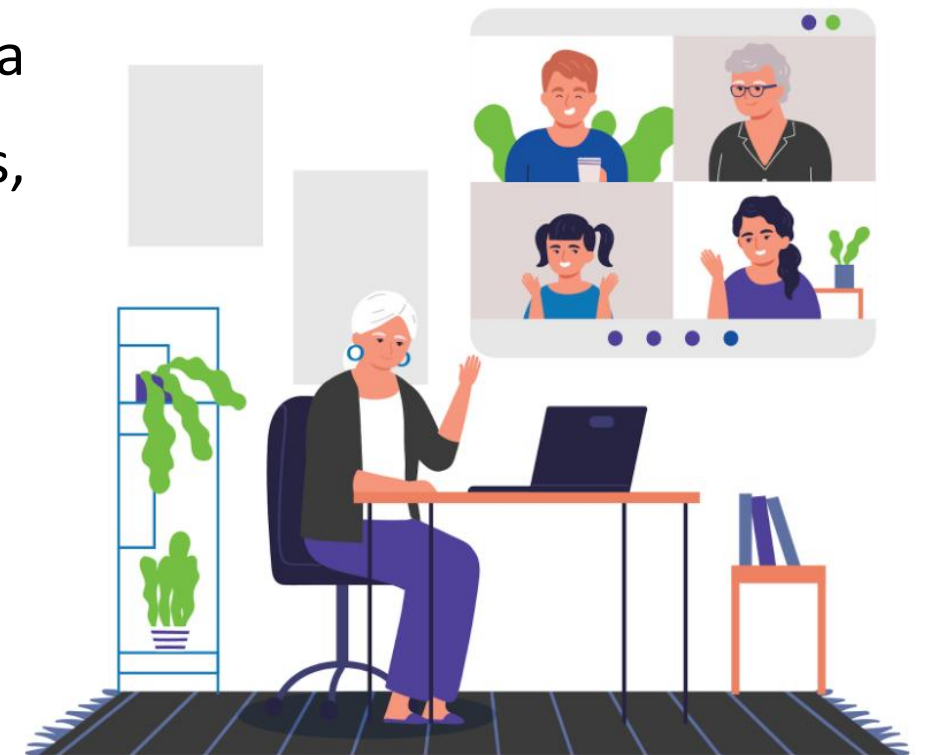


Collaborative, browser-based presentations; the simplest route from story to screen

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

Google Slides is mentioned explicitly in both activities in the module as the primary tool for the Intermediate skill level.

The real-time collaboration feature of Google Slides is particularly valuable. A facilitator can open a shared presentation on a projector and watch as pairs add their slides remotely from their own devices, creating a live, growing group storyboard without any file-sharing logistics.



Collaborative, browser-based presentations; the simplest route from story to screen

Tips for Facilitators

- Before the session, create one shared Google Slides file with a slide template for each pair. Share the edit link with all participants. This way, everyone works in the same file, and their slides are automatically compiled into a group presentation.
- Audio files must be in Google Drive before they can be inserted. If participants use iPhone voice memos, they will need to share the file via AirDrop or email to a device where they can upload it to Drive.
- If participants are unfamiliar with Google accounts, consider creating a single shared group account for the session and logging in on all devices.
- The 'Two content' layout is perfect for Activity 2 — it provides two equal panels side by side, ideal for the 'then and now' photograph comparison.
- Participants can add comments to each other's slides using Insert > Comment. This enables written peer feedback without altering the original content.



Collaborative, browser-based presentations; the simplest route from story to screen

Pricing Overview

- ✓ FREE — Google Slides is completely free for personal use. No paid tier required.
- ✓ FREE — Google Drive storage (15GB) is included with every free Google account.
- 💰 Google Workspace: from approx. €6/user/month, organizational plans with admin controls, more storage, and video calling. Not required for this module.
- 🎓 Google Workspace for Education: free for qualifying educational institutions, includes Classroom, Meet, and Workspace tools.
- ℹ️ All module activities can be completed entirely within the free Google tier.

Helpful Links

- 🔗 Google Slides homepage: <https://slides.google.com>
- 🔗 Google Slides Help Centre: <https://support.google.com/docs/topic/9052835>
- 🔗 Google Workspace for Education (free for schools): https://edu.google.com/intl/ALL_uk/products/workspace-for-education/
- 🔗 Google Slides iOS app: <https://apps.apple.com/app/google-slides/id879478102>
- 🔗 Google Slides Android app: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.docs.editors.slides>

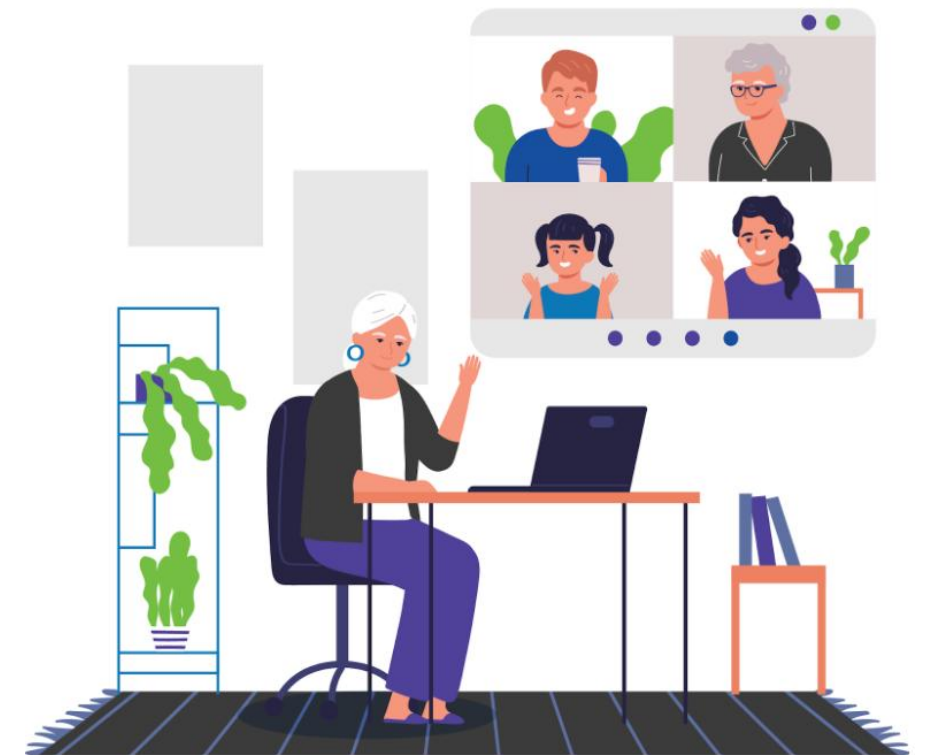


Design beautiful visual stories without any graphic design experience

What is Canva?

Canva is a free, browser-based graphic design platform that allows anyone to create professional-looking visual content without any prior design experience. It offers thousands of customizable templates for presentations, posters, social media posts, infographics, photo collages, and much more. Users simply drag and drop images, text, and design elements onto a canvas and export their finished work as a PDF, image, or shareable link.

Canva is one of the most widely used tools in education and community settings precisely because its learning curve is very gentle. A participant who has never used design software can produce a polished two-slide visual story within 10 minutes of opening the tool for the first time.



Design beautiful visual stories without any graphic design experience

At a Glance

Website	canva.com
Mobile apps	Available on iOS (App Store) and Android (Google Play) (free download)
Account required?	Yes (a free account is required. Sign up with email, Google, or Facebook).
Cost to use	Free tier is generous and covers all module activity needs
Paid tier	Canva Pro (approx. €13/month or €110/year) (extra templates, brand kit, background remover)
Offline use	No (requires an internet connection; the mobile app has limited offline editing).
Best for	Intermediate skill level; accessible to all participants from about age 12 upwards



Design beautiful visual stories without any graphic design experience

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

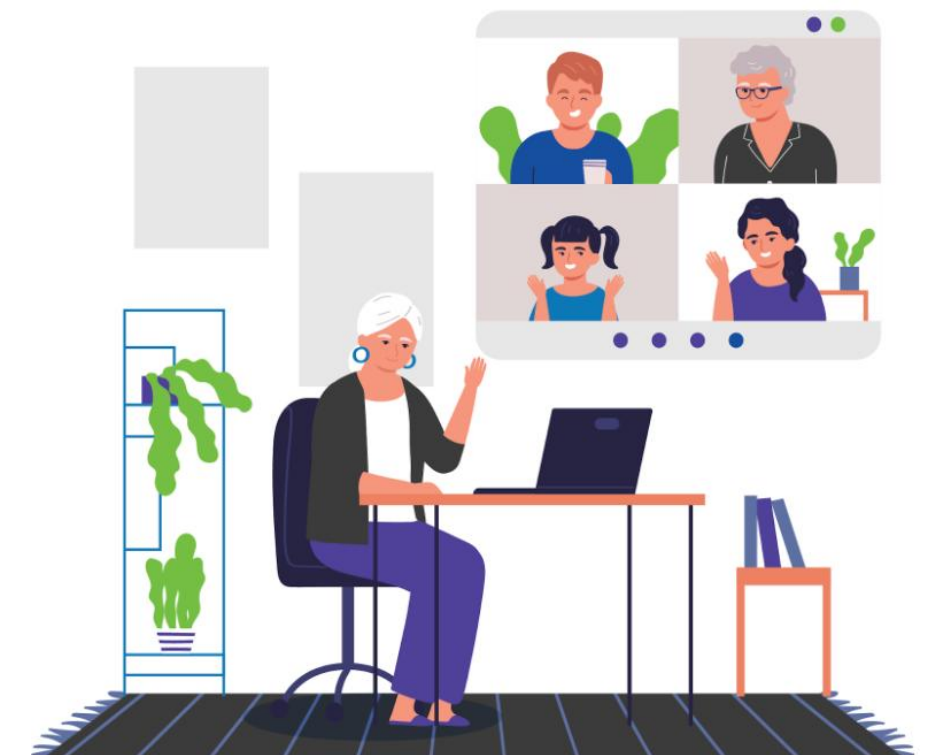
In both module activities, the Intermediate skill level asks participants to combine a photograph with a short audio narration on a single slide. Canva is one of the three recommended tools for this step. Its photo-layout templates, particularly the side-by-side and full-bleed image formats, are especially well suited to Activity 1 (A Place Then and Now), where a current photograph of a location needs to be presented alongside a brief title and narration. For Activity 2 (A Meaningful Object), a single Canva slide with the object photograph and an embedded audio player is the cleanest and most accessible output format for participants who are new to digital tools. Canva also allows the facilitator to create a shared template in advance that all pairs can open and edit simultaneously, significantly reducing setup time during the session.



Design beautiful visual stories without any graphic design experience

Tips for Facilitators

- Before the session, create a blank two-slide template and share the edit link with participants. This removes the need for everyone to navigate templates independently and saves valuable time.
- Canva for Education is a free upgraded plan for teachers and educational institutions. Apply at canva.com/education, which includes all Pro features at no cost.
- If participants are working on shared devices, log into one Canva account per device and use the 'Duplicate page' function so each pair starts from the same template.
- Mobile users can work directly in the Canva app. The interface is slightly different from the desktop version, but the core steps are the same.
- The 'Photo collage' template category is especially useful for Activity 2. Search 'side by side photo' in the template search bar for ready-made layouts.



Design beautiful visual stories without any graphic design experience

Pricing Overview

☑ FREE — Canva Free: access to 250,000+ templates, 5GB cloud storage, basic design tools. Sufficient for all module activities.

💰 Canva Pro: approx. €13/month or ~€110/year. Extra templates, 1TB storage, brand kit, background remover, and premium media.

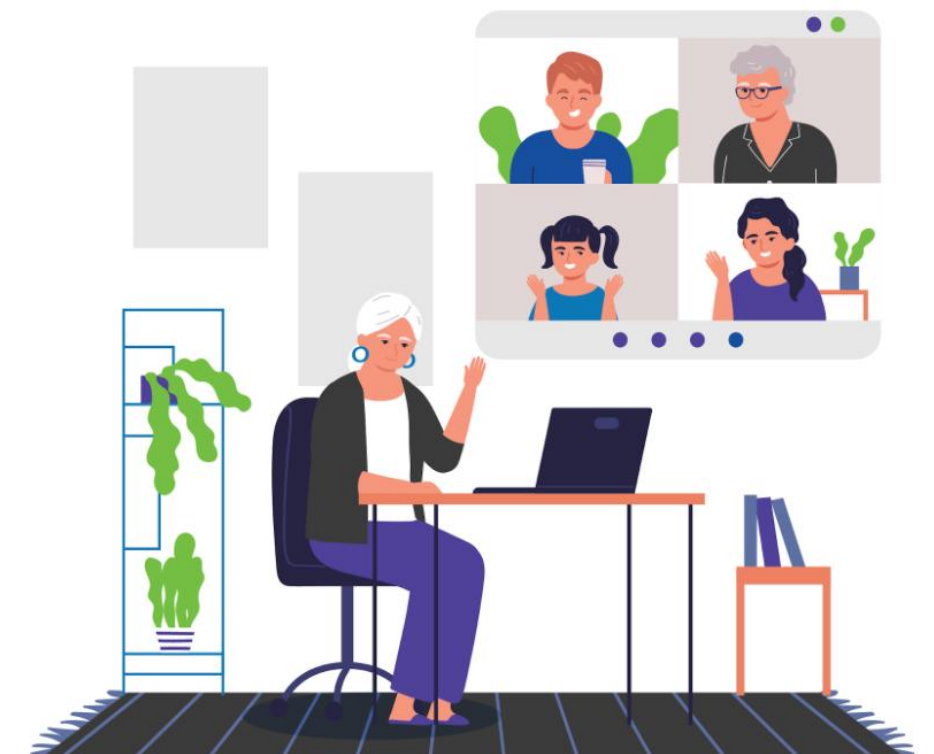
🎓 FREE for education — Canva for Education: all Pro features free for verified teachers and their students.

🏢 Canva for Teams: from approx. €27/month for 5 users. Collaborative brand management.

ℹ The free tier is fully sufficient for all activities in this module. Pro is not required.

Helpful Links

- 🔗 Canva homepage: <https://www.canva.com>
- 🔗 Canva for Education (free Pro plan for teachers): <https://www.canva.com/education/>
- 🔗 Canva Design School tutorials: <https://www.canva.com/designschool/>
- 🔗 Canva Help Centre: <https://www.canva.com/help/>
- 🔗 Canva iOS app (App Store): <https://apps.apple.com/app/canva/id897446215>
- 🔗 Canva Android app (Google Play): <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.canva.editor>



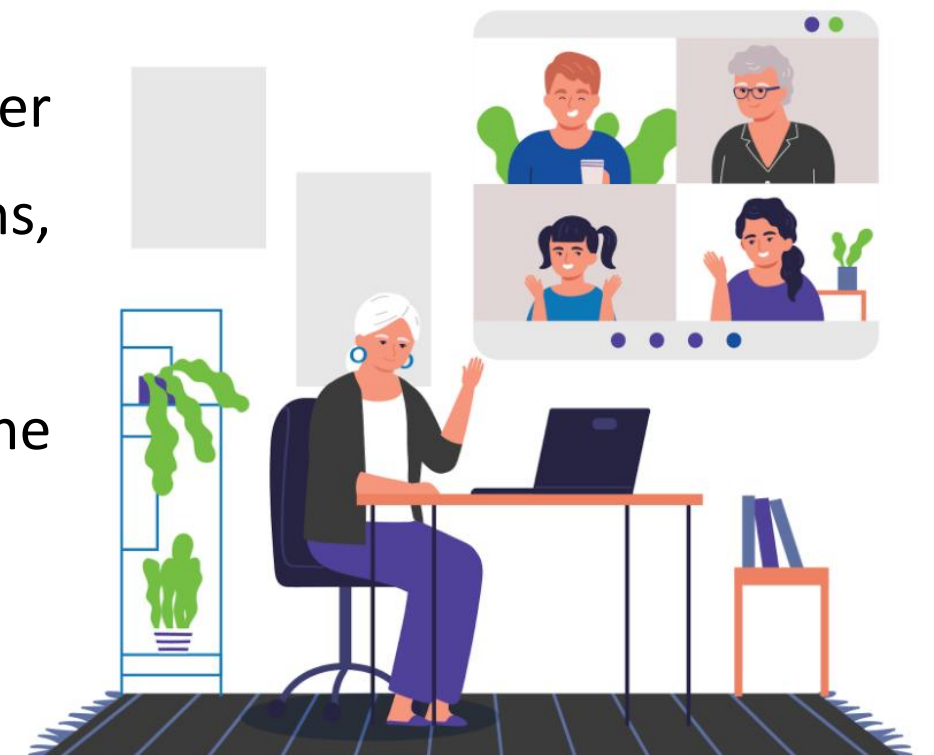
Craft immersive, map-centered narratives that combine text, media, and geography

What is ArcGIS StoryMaps?

ArcGIS StoryMaps is a web-based platform developed by Esri, the world's leading GIS (Geographic Information Systems) company. It allows users to weave together maps, photographs, videos, audio clips, and written text into a single, scroll-based digital narrative, a 'StoryMap'. The result is a rich, immersive presentation that is far more geographically expressive than a slide deck.

Unlike a standard website or blog, a StoryMap places geography at the heart of the story. As a reader scrolls through the narrative, the map automatically pans, zooms, and highlights relevant locations, giving the reader a genuine sense of moving through urban space.

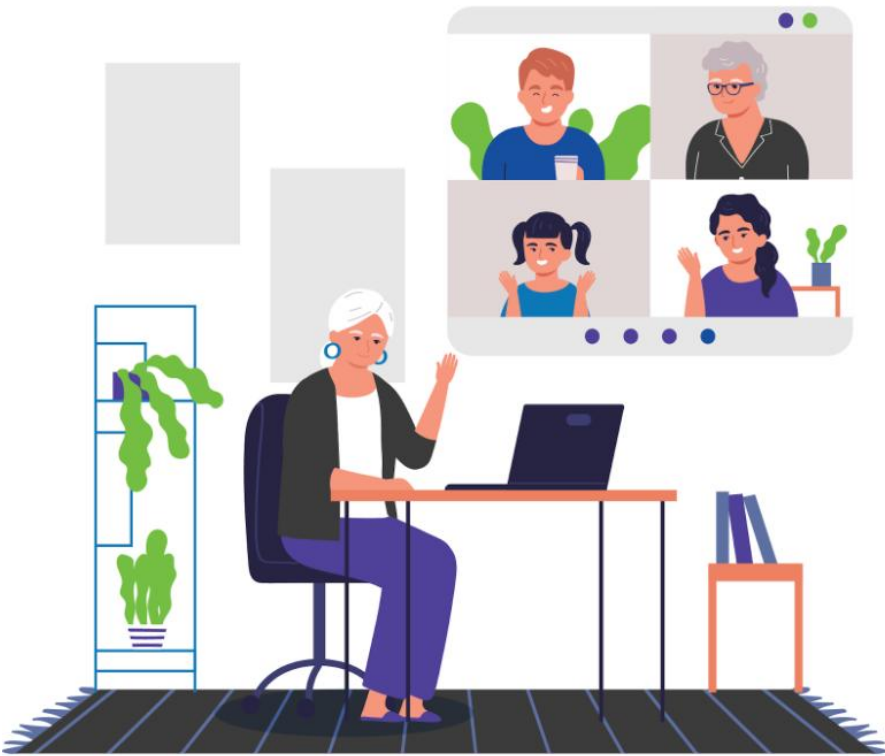
For experienced participants, StoryMaps represent the most powerful storytelling format in the module's Advanced skill tier.



Craft immersive, map-centered narratives that combine text, media, and geography

At a Glance

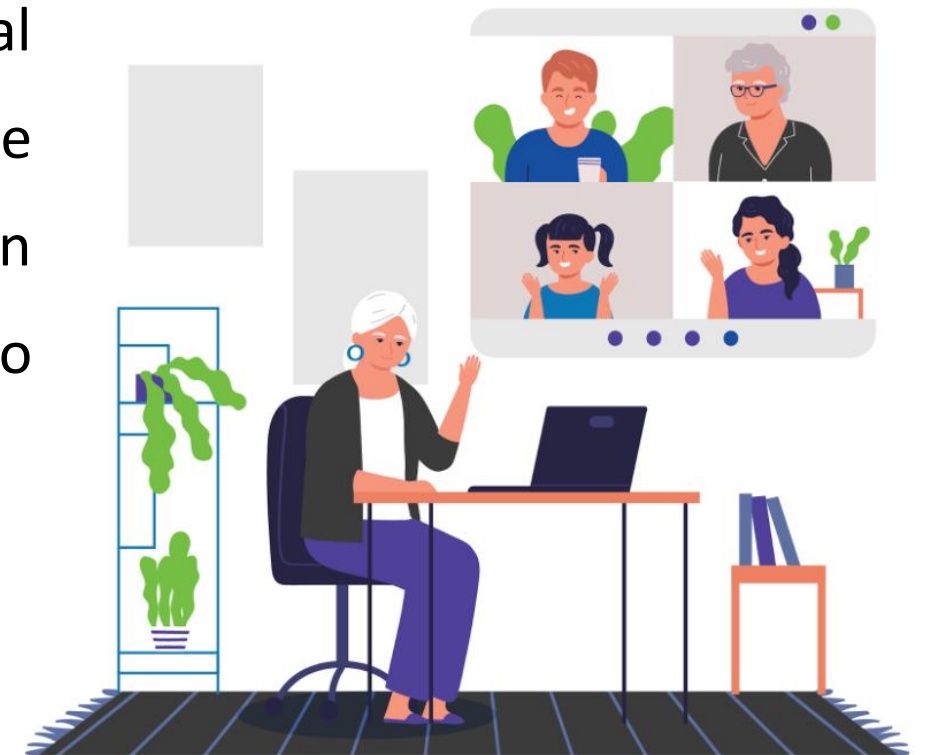
Website	storymaps.arcgis.com
Platform	Web browser (best on Chrome or Edge); tablet-friendly; no app download required
Account required?	Yes (a free ArcGIS public account or an organizational account is needed to create)
Cost to create	Free tier available (ArcGIS public account); paid options for advanced features
Cost to view	Free (published Story Maps can be viewed by anyone without an account)
Offline use	No (requires an internet connection to create and view)
Best for	Advanced skill level; intermediate users can engage with simplified story sections



Craft immersive, map-centered narratives that combine text, media, and geography

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

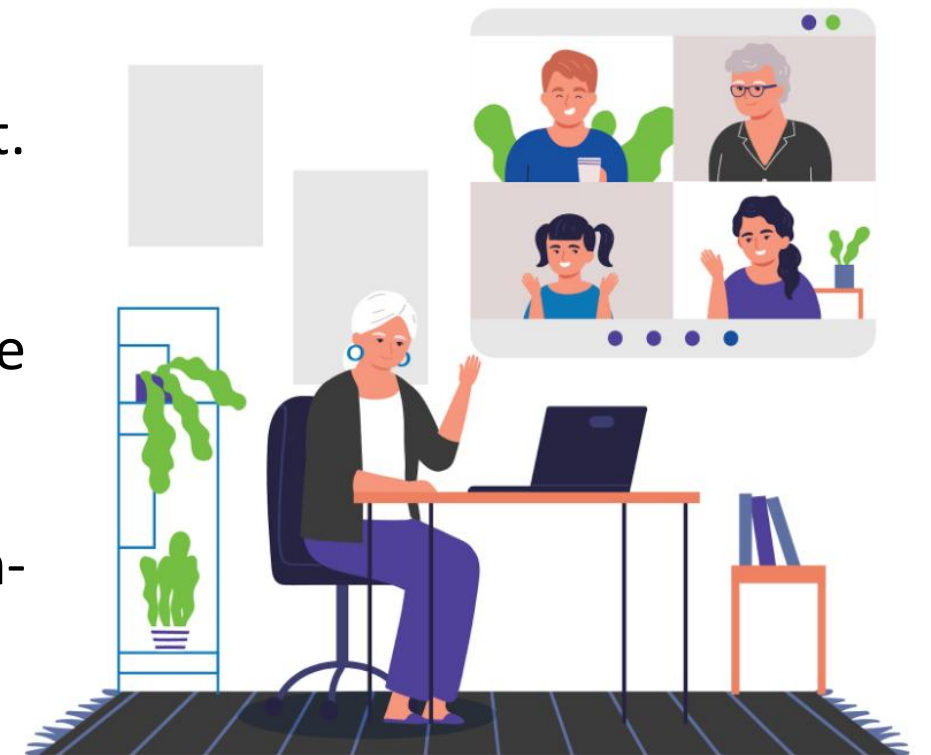
ArcGIS StoryMaps is the tool designated for the Advanced skill level in both module activities. In Activity 1 (A Place Then and Now), an Advanced pair creates a full StoryMap with a location pin on an interactive map, the current photograph, the recorded audio narration, and a short written caption, all in a single, shareable URL. In Activity 2 (A Meaningful Object), the Advanced output adds an optional location context to the object story, connecting the personal memory to the place it came from. The module singles out ArcGIS StoryMaps as the most comprehensive tool available for projects focused on local history, community memory, or cultural heritage, precisely because it connects stories directly to the places that shaped them, the defining principle of both activities.



Craft immersive, map-centered narratives that combine text, media, and geography

Tips for Facilitators

- Create a sample StoryMap before the session and share the link with participants as a model. Seeing a finished example dramatically reduces setup anxiety.
- The 'Guided map tour' template is the fastest way to create a location-based narrative. It generates a side-by-side layout of map and content automatically.
- Audio files must be uploaded as MP3 or M4A. iPhone voice memos export as M4A by default. Android recordings are usually MP3. Both work well.
- If participants struggle with account creation during the session, one facilitator account can be used to publish stories on participants' behalf, with their names credited in the text.
- Esri offers free educational licenses for schools and non-profit organizations. Apply at esri.com/en-us/industries/education



Craft immersive, map-centred narratives that combine text, media, and geography

Pricing Overview

✓ FREE — ArcGIS public account: create and publish stories with core features. Limited cloud storage.

✓ FREE — Viewing published stories requires no account.

💰 PAID — ArcGIS Online subscription (via organizational account): full GIS capabilities, team management, advanced map layers. Pricing varies — contact Esri.

🎓 FREE for education — Esri offers free organizational accounts to qualifying schools and non-profits.

ℹ For the activities in this module, a free public account is fully sufficient.

Helpful Links

- 🔗 ArcGIS StoryMaps homepage: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com>
- 🔗 Create a free ArcGIS public account: <https://www.arcgis.com/sharing/rest/oauth2/signup>
- 🔗 StoryMaps tutorial library (Esri): <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/cea22a609a1d4cccb8d54c650b595bc4>
- 🔗 StoryMaps Help documentation: <https://doc.arcgis.com/en/arcgis-storymaps/get-started/what-is-arcgis-storymaps.htm>
- 🔗 Esri education programme: <https://www.esri.com/en-us/industries/education/overview>



Non-linear, zoomable presentation platform — bring spatial thinking to your digital stories

What is Prezi?

Prezi is a web-based presentation platform that works on an entirely different principle from Google Slides or PowerPoint. Instead of a sequence of flat slides, Prezi places all content on a single large canvas and moves the viewer through it by zooming in, panning across, and rotating between sections. The result is a presentation that feels spatial and exploratory rather than linear, well-suited to topics where connections, layers, and geography matter, as they do in urban memory and place-based storytelling.

Prezi is used in the module as an alternative presentation format for facilitators who want to show relationships between stories, places, and time periods in a way that a slide deck cannot. A Prezi canvas can hold the photographs, audio clips, and location notes from multiple pairs simultaneously, and the facilitator can navigate between them in any order during the sharing and reflection phase.



Non-linear, zoomable presentation platform — bring spatial thinking to your digital stories

At a Glance

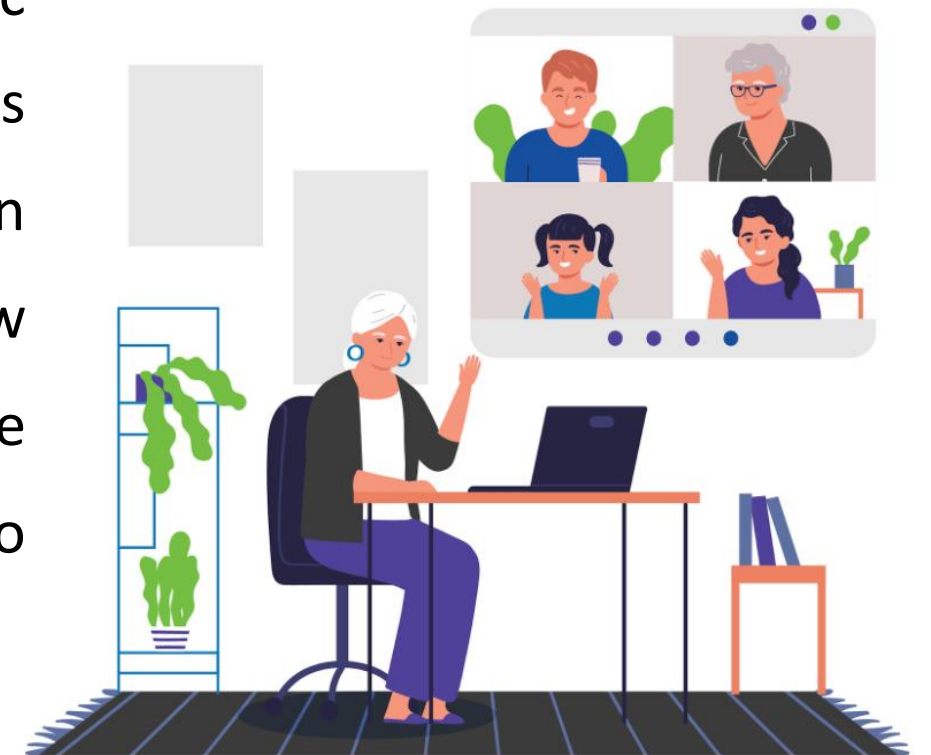
Website	prezi.com
Platform	Web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Edge, Safari) — no app download required; iOS and Android apps available
Account required?	Yes — a free Prezi account is required to create. Viewers can watch shared presentations without an account.
Cost	Free tier available (limited presentations, Prezi branding); paid plans from approx. EUR 3/month (student) or EUR 7/month (standard)
Offline use	Limited — presentations require internet to create and edit; the Prezi Desktop app (paid) allows offline presenting
Collaboration	Real-time co-editing available on paid plans; free accounts can share view-only links
Best for	Facilitators presenting group outputs; Advanced participants with confidence in digital tools
File export	PDF export and video export are available on paid plans; free accounts share via URL only



Non-linear, zoomable presentation platform — bring spatial thinking to your digital stories

Why It Matters for Digital Storytelling?

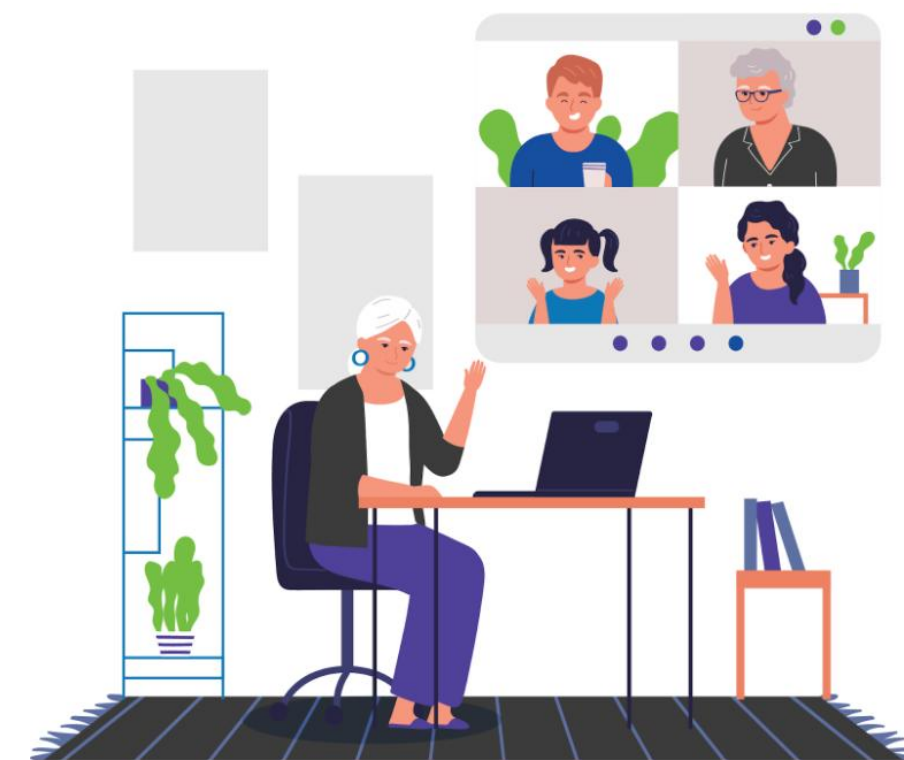
Prezi is not a tool participants use during the activity sessions; it is primarily a facilitator's tool for the sharing and reflection phase. After pairs have completed their stories in Canva, Google Slides, or ArcGIS StoryMaps, the facilitator can import or embed those outputs into a single Prezi canvas and use the zoom-and-pan navigation to move between stories in a way that reveals their geographic and thematic connections. A facilitator running Activity 1 with multiple pairs, for example, can place each pair's photograph and narration at the approximate location of their chosen place on a map-like canvas, then zoom into each story during the group presentation, giving the whole group a felt sense of how individual memories are distributed across a shared urban space. This use of Prezi directly reflects the module's emphasis on multimodal learning and the value of connecting personal narratives to collective place.



Non-linear, zoomable presentation platform — bring spatial thinking to your digital stories

Tips for Facilitators

- Use Prezi for the group sharing phase, not for individual pair work. The tool's strength is in showing connections across multiple stories — use it to bring the group's outputs together, not as a production tool during the activity itself.
- Before the session, build a simple canvas with one placeholder block for each pair. Label each block with the pair's names or their chosen location. During the session, pairs can hand you their photograph and you can drop it into their designated block in under a minute.
- The canvas overview, the bird's-eye view of all content at once, is one of Prezi's most powerful moments. Open the session's closing reflection with the full canvas on screen so participants can see all their stories together before zooming into each one individually.
- If you are using a map-style template, place each pair's story block at the approximate geographic location of their chosen place. Even an approximate placement gives participants a strong visual sense of how their memories are distributed across the neighbourhood or city.
- The free plan limits you to a small number of saved Prezis. If you are running multiple sessions, either upgrade to a paid plan or download a PDF of each finished Prezi before starting the next one.



Non-linear, zoomable presentation platform — bring spatial thinking to your digital stories

Pricing Overview

FREE — Prezi Basic: create and share presentations with Prezi branding on all slides. Limited to a small number of saved presentations.

PAID — Prezi Standard: approx. EUR 7/month — remove branding, unlimited presentations, privacy controls, PDF export.

PAID — Prezi Plus: approx. EUR 12/month — adds analytics, offline presenting, and priority support.

FREE for students — Prezi EDU: free or discounted plans for students and teachers at qualifying institutions. Apply at prezi.com/education.

Note: For a single facilitated session, the free plan is sufficient. The main limitation is the Prezi watermark and the cap on saved presentations.

Helpful Links

-  Link Prezi homepage: <https://prezi.com>
-  Prezi Education plan (free for students and teachers): <https://prezi.com/education/>
-  Prezi Help Centre: <https://support.prezi.com/hc/en-us>
-  Getting started with Prezi (official tutorial): <https://support.prezi.com/hc/en-us/articles/360017829911>
-  Prezi iOS app (App Store): <https://apps.apple.com/app/prezi-viewer/id576717926>
-  Prezi Android app (Google Play): <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.prezi.android>



A final note for facilitators

You do not need to master every tool in this guide before your first session. Start with the tool that matches your group's skill level and your own comfort. A well-facilitated session using a paper map and verbal narration is more valuable than a technically sophisticated session where participants spend most of their time troubleshooting software.

The tools in this guide are means, not ends. The end is the story, the memory of a demolished market, the sound of a familiar street, the moment when a younger participant sees a neighborhood they thought they knew through the eyes of someone who has known it for fifty years. Any tool that helps that moment happen is the right tool.





LEGENDS

Thank you very much
for your attention!



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Funded by the European Union. However, the opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union or the Erasmus+ National Agency (INDIRE). Neither the European Union nor the funding authority can be held responsible for them.
Project Number: 2025-1-IT02-KA220-ADU-000352101