

# StoryMapJS TUTORIAL

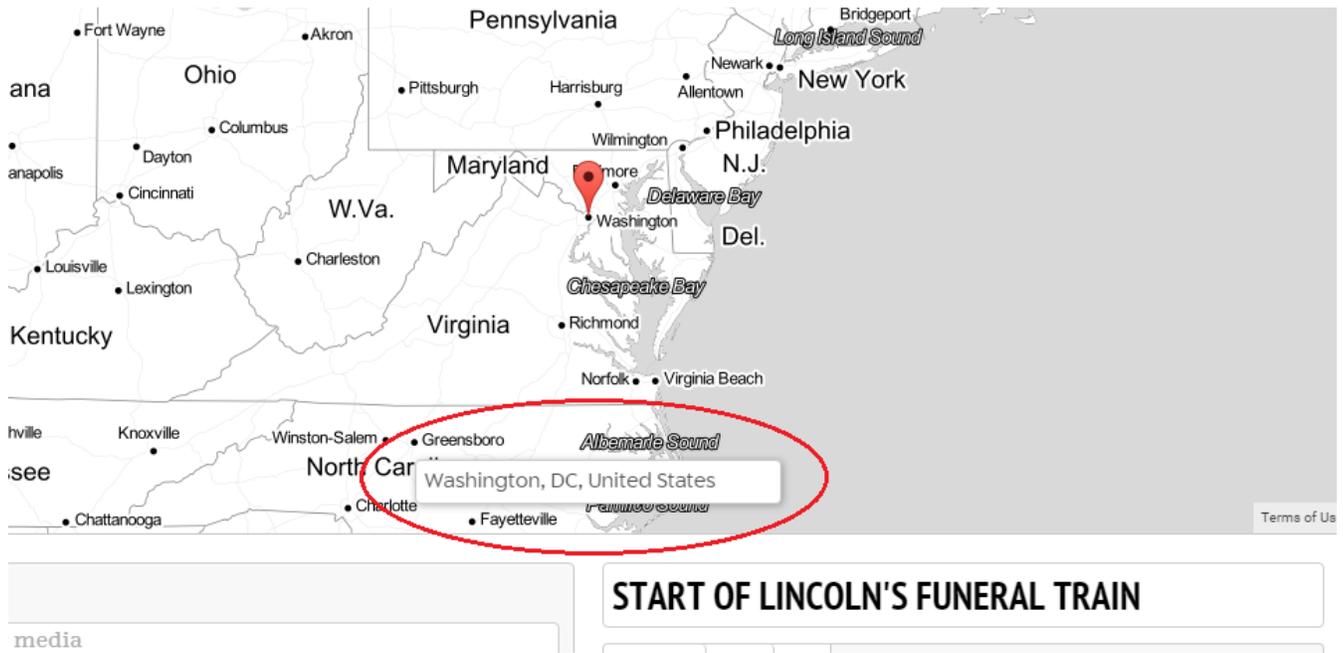
[StoryMapJS](#) is a free tool to help you tell stories on the web that highlight the locations of a series of events.

The screenshot displays a StoryMapJS interface. The main map shows the United States with a highlighted path (yellow) representing the westward expansion of the United States. The path starts in the Northeast and moves westward across the continent. An inset map titled "US MANIFEST DESTINY MEAN CENTER OF UNITED STATES POPULATION" shows the mean center of population for each year from 1790 to 2010, marked with red triangles. The inset map also includes a legend for the mean center of population, mean center of population for the United States, county of center of population, state or state equivalent, and county or county equivalent. The main map has a navigation bar at the top with "Map Overview" and "Back To Beginning" buttons. The map is titled "US MANIFEST DESTINY" and "MEAN CENTER OF UNITED STATES POPULATION". The text below the inset map reads: "The mean center of U.S. population is determined by the United States Census Bureau from the results of each census. Defined as the point at which an imaginary, flat, weightless, and rigid map of the United States would balance perfectly if weights of identical value were placed on it so that each weight represented the location of one person on the date of the census." Below this text is a yellow box with the text: "This is an overview or title slide to show all the points in your story routed on your map."

To get started, go to [storymap.knightlab.com](http://storymap.knightlab.com). Then, simply create a new map and give it a title. Your first slide, your title slide, will show the points from your other slides, so don't worry about the look of the title slide right away. Just add a headline and any introductory text you'd like to add.

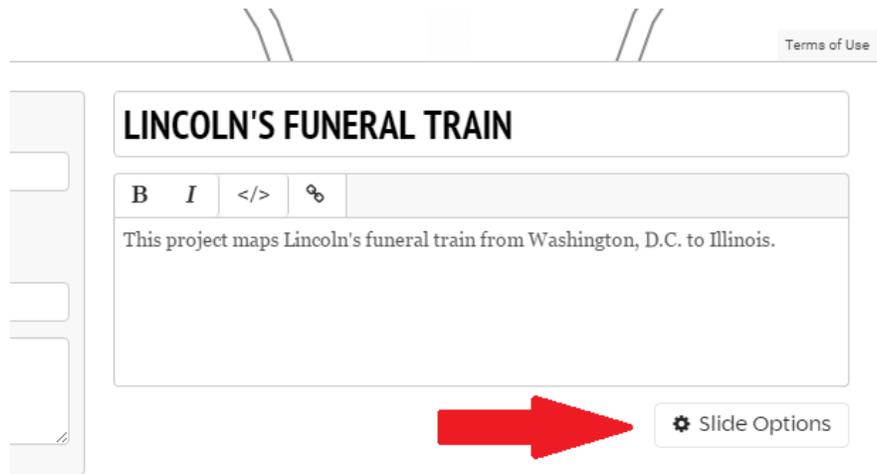
The screenshot shows the StoryMapJS interface with the "Options" menu open. The "Options" menu is located in the upper left corner and contains a gear icon and the text "Options". A red arrow points to the "Options" menu. The main map shows a zoomed-in view of the Great Lakes region with cities like Chicago, South Bend, Toledo, Cleveland, and Akron labeled. The map is titled "Lincoln's fun..." and has a red button with a white icon in the bottom left corner.

In the "Options" area on the upper left corner, you can choose the type of map you'd like to use as your base map. We think Open Street Maps is a pretty good standard option. If you'd like to get fancy, you can connect your StoryMap to a map from your Mapbox account or to a custom map of your choosing.



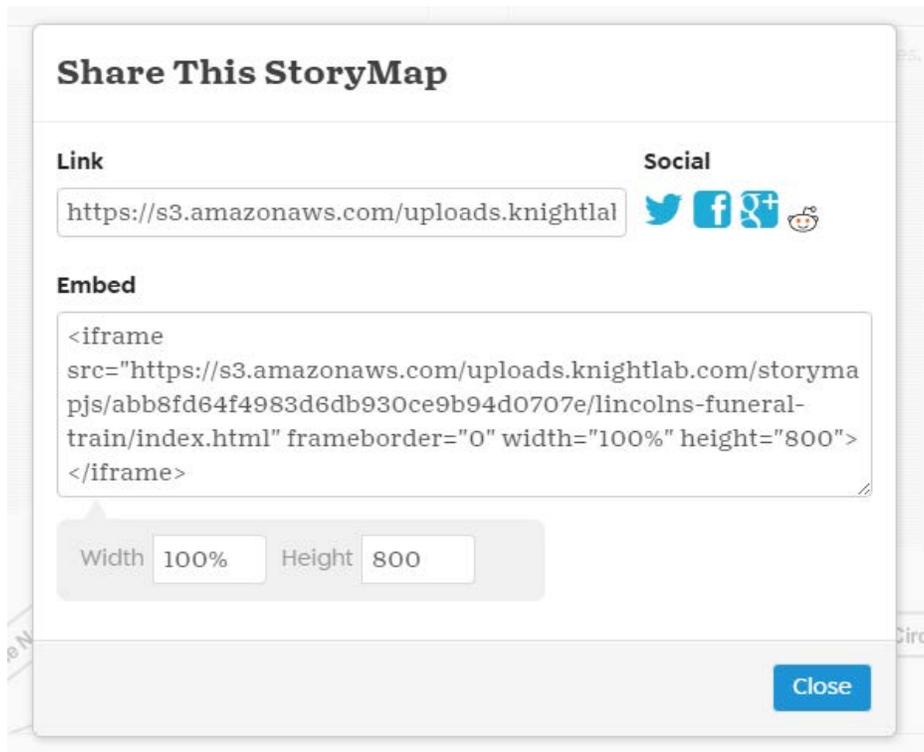
For your first slide, you can navigate to any point by typing an address in the “Search” box. Control the zoom level with the + and - arrows. Place your slide title in the heading box and start typing your description in the body box. You can use their simple tools to bold, italicize, and hyperlink, or you can use the HTML editor if you’re a little more HTML-savvy. In addition to contextual text, you can also add images, video, or links to this box.

You can adjust design elements, such as the background color, or add a background image, by going to “Slide Options.”



On the next slide, simply repeat by typing the desired location into the “Search” box and adjusting from there.

Once you’ve added all the slides you want to add, click “Save” and your StoryMap will be ready to share with the world!



The “Share” button on the upper right corner will allow you to grab a URL link, share to social media, or get the HTML embed code so you can add your StoryMap to your website.

StoryMapJS is a great, interactive mapping tool, and we hope you will try it out in your classroom.