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Using Google Earth in Libraries: A Practical Guide for Librarians (Practical Guides for Librarians)

Eva H. Dodsworth, Andrew Nicholson

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Google Earth is a research, mapping, and cultural exploration tool that puts the whole world in your hands, then hands over the tools to let you build your own world. The uses of Google Earth in academia, in libraries, and across disciplines are endless and each year more innovate research projects are being released. Since its launch, Google Earth has had an enormous impact on the way people think, learn, and work with geographic information. With easy access to spatial and cultural information, and with customizable map features and dynamic presentation tools, Google Earth is an attractive option for anyone wishing to host projects and to share research findings through a common online interface.

This easy-to-read, practical guide:
- Demonstrates how Google Earth has been used as a resource for research
- Showcases library path finders, discovery tools, and collections built with Google Earth
- Discusses how Google Earth can be embedded into various library services
- Highlights effectives uses of Google Earth in specific-discipline education, and provide step-by-step sample classroom activities
- Introduces Google Earth features, data, and map making capabilities
- Describes Google Earth-related online resources

After reading this guide, librarians will be able to easily integrate Google Earth's many facets into their services and help teachers integrate it into their classrooms. Because so many librarians are educators and subject specialists, they can customize the learning outcomes for students based on the subject being studied. This book presents a cross-disciplinary overview of how Google Earth can be used in research, in teaching and learning, and in other library services like promotion, outreach, reference and very importantly collection and resource exploration and discovery.

This comprehensive guide to using Google Earth is for public, school, academic, and special libraries serving from the elementary level through adult levels. Although articles have been written about specific subjects and specific library projects, this is the first published that offer a one-stop-shop for utilizing this online product for library-related purposes. Librarians reading this book will gain the Google Earth skills required to be able to not only use it themselves, but also teach others in how to use this online technology.

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