

[Blog for Brad: Old Tricks in New Google Earth](#)

http://blog.discoveryeducation.com/media_matters/2009/02/05/blog-for-brad-old-tricks-in-new-google-earth/



This week **Google Earth** introduced its latest update (version 5 in most operating systems). Some neat things: You can now record tours, say of state capitals, you can fly under the oceans and, for example, see the Davidson Seamount (no relation), explore older images of earth with the Historical Imagery button, and still embed video, from, say,



[DiscoveryEducationstreaming](#). More on that at the end of this post.

But this blog is for fabulous elementary teacher **Brad Upshaw** (see pic of him getting to the bottom of his district's payroll problems). He is a great videomaker, in fact leads workshops on it for the [DEN](#). But his district moved up the deadline for the video festival this year. He wanted to shoot his 4th graders at various spots in the yard. So for Brad, this post.



Brad, this post.



Brad—do it in Google Earth. You can have Placemarks throughout the yard (or the world) with videos of your students giving rules, facts, narratives, etc. When the Placemark is clicked, there they are. It takes minutes. You do it the same way you insert

[DiscoveryEducationstreaming](#) video clips. **Here's how.** 1) Download **Jing** from

[Jingproject.com](#) (free) 2) Download the **VideoTemplate** kmz file here

([Windows](#) or [Mac version](#)). 3) Create a folder called **Converted Video** in the Local Disc C drive (PC) or inside the Macintosh HD. It can't be buried in another folder. [Download](#) the new version of GoogleEarth if you'd like, too. Version doesn't matter. Brad uses a Mac, so he has a camera and mike built in. If you have a PC, get a webcam. I use a Logitech unit.



Next A. Open your webcam (or PhotoBooth). B. Launch Jing. Draw a rectangle and record

the area shown in the webcam video window (Jing lets you create whatever space you need). C. Record your students. Have them stand in front of the camera. They can be in character, costume, holding props, etc. D.

When done, save the Jing recording as **mediamatters** in the **Converted Video** folder. It nicely makes a flash video file (swf). Launch [Google Earth](#) by clicking on the VideoTemplate kmz file you already downloaded.

The VideoTemplate will be in Temporary Files on the left at the bottom. When you click on the VideoTemplate [icon](#), your video will be inside. Almost like magic. Note: I did this live at the Florida technology conference (FETC) and it was so easy people thought it was a setup. **It's not!** It is that easy! Do it three times, bumps and all, and you will master it. Next, for more videos, create and rename a bunch of new Video Template kmz files—

one for each video or student you want to place on the earth. You can right click (control click Mac) on files in Google Earth to your heart's content (they're in the Places column on the left). Just keep changing the name of the video file saved. Then use the same name in the [Placemark](#) box. Right click on the file name, get

Properties (Get Info on a Mac) and change only the file name (see below in bold). While you're in there, click on the upper face image and **change the icon** from my face (you don't want that). You can use a standard icon, like the push pin, or a Custom [Icon](#) of your school mascot, etc. The code you paste into the description box (after right clicking to get Properties) is [here](#) as a Word doc, or below if you need it. But it's already there in the kmz template you downloaded. OK, Brad, try it. Leave me a comment or email me if it doesn't work.

Video on demand! And once you've done that, think about using videos from [DiscoveryEducationstreaming](#) in that box. Use flash, paste the title, and you've got it. Very nifty! More details [here](#).

Code to paste is [here](#) in a Word Doc. More in [Handouts here](#). The actual code is below. The file names are in colors. There is a slight difference between Macs and PCs. Remember to create that **Converted Video** folder just inside your computer (capitals, space between the words **Converted** and **Video**).

Before the interminable code below, some cool links featuring the new GoogleEarth, courtesy of Mr. Dembo. [First](#). [Second](#). [Third](#). And a [cool kmz file](#) on the inauguration I found.

Code from the VideoTemplate - Paste in Placemark Description box. Replace the title in blue with the name you saved your Jing video

PC

```
<object classid="clsid:D27CDB6E-AE6D-11cf-96B8-444553540000"
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<param name=bgcolor value=#FFFFFF>
<embed src="file:///C:\Converted Video\mediamatters.swf" quality=high bgcolor=#FFFFFF width="637"
height="421" align=""
type="application/x-shockwave-flash" pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer">
</embed>

</object>
```

(Mac)

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<object classid="clsid:D27CDB6E-AE6D-11cf-96B8-444553540000"
codebase="http://download.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#version=6,0,0,0"
width="637" height="421" id="game" align="">
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<embed src="\Converted Video\mediamatters.swf" quality=high bgcolor=#FFFFFF width="637"
height="421" align=""
type="application/x-shockwave-flash" pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer">
</embed>
</object>
```

This was a long post. Why don't I just the dang book, like [Liz Kolb](#) did for [cellphones](#)..