



WWT Tips for the Classroom for Tour Authoring

These tips are specifically geared toward classrooms where students are creating their own tours as part of a research project. Beyond the general tour-making instructions, here are some additional pointers to help students through this phase.

- **Make sure students SAVE tours often!!**
- **Make sure students are careful about where they are saving their tour and related audio files.**
 - Students often think their materials have “disappeared,” when actually, they just weren’t paying attention to which folder they were saving to.
- **Accessing the finder scope when editing a tour:**
 - Right-click will NOT bring up the Finder Scope in tour-edit mode. (It tries to "paste" instead.)
 - Students will have to use this alternate way to bring up the Finder Scope:
 - Click the "Explore" tab twice to bring up the 2ndary menu.
 - Click "Show Finder."
 - The Finder Scope will appear on the screen. The student will have to click on it and drag it to center the crosshairs on the object they would like to identify.
- **Tour Viewing vs Editing mode.**
 - If a student double clicks on their tour from outside WWT, the tour will Play, but they will not be able to edit it. To edit it, they must click on the "Guided Tours" tab twice, and choose the option "Edit Tour."
 - Alternately, if they open their tour from within WWT, they will automatically be in "Edit Tour" mode:
 - Click the "Explore" tab twice to bring up the 2ndary menu
 - Select "Open" -> "Tour" -> find the folder that contains their tour and select the students' tour.
- **Troubleshooting tips**
 - Problem: The whole screen area is blue
 - If a student is in "Sky" mode and has checked "View from this Location" (in the View tab) you will only be able to see the half of the sky that is visible over the horizon. If you are looking anywhere else, WWT will display an empty blue space to indicate that that part of the sky is not visible from your location at that time.
 - To fix: Select the "View" tab. Uncheck the box that says "View from this location."
 - Problem: WWT behaves in an unexpected way
 - With so many students using the computers, they will inevitably end up in a weird state that we can't troubleshoot. (For example, one student kept trying to show MA on the Earth in

Solar System mode, but whenever we zoomed in toward Earth, the globe would spin around and center on Africa instead).

- To fix:
 - Select the secondary menu under "Settings" -> "Restore Defaults."
 - If that doesn't help, close and reopen WWT.
 - If that still doesn't help, reboot the computer.
- **Error messages**
 - Please let Pat Udomprasert know if students are encountering unusual problems. The WWT team can't fix bugs if they don't know about them.
 - Once in a while, we see the message "This is not a valid Tour file" when opening a previously saved Tour. If you get this error message, please copy the "broken" Tour to a flash drive and email it to Pat to pass on to Jonathan Fay for debugging.
 - A fix that has worked in the past:
 - Create a new tour.
 - Add a slide to the Tour.
 - Right click on the "dummy" slide.
 - Select "Merge tour after slide."
 - Select the buggy tour to merge in.
 - Run the new merged tour. If all goes well, save a new copy.