

How to Annotate an Image — Using Image Editing Programs

Annotating an image means adding labels and pointers to the image that help people viewing the image understand what they are seeing.

Materials/Resources:

- Arrange for access to the ISS EarthKAM Datasystem at <http://datasystem.earthkam.ucsd.edu> or download an ISS EarthKAM image JPEG file and print the image's Metadata Table
- Access an image-editing program capable of labeling. Examples include Photoshop, Paint Shop Pro, Microsoft Photo Editor, and some software provided with scanners or digital cameras.
- Resources for exploring the image, such as atlases, travel guides, and reference books.
- Optional: ISS EarthKAM educator guides How to Explore Images, How to Find North, and How to Create a Scale Bar available in the Educator section of the ISS EarthKAM Web site
- Optional: View the sample annotated images available on the ISS EarthKAM Web site

Time: 1+ (50 minute) periods

Level: Easy

Recommended Procedures:

1. Download and open the image into your image-editing program.
 - Download the highest resolution JPEG of your image from the ISS EarthKAM Datasystem and save it on your hard drive.
 - Start your image-editing program and open the image.
2. Optional — Rotate the image to create a North-up view.
 - Using a Rotate command that allows you to choose the angle of rotation, rotate the image counterclockwise by the amount indicated by the Angle from North from the Metadata Table.
 - Compare your rotated image with a view of the image on the Image Viewer: Rotated Image page to make sure they match.
3. Title your image, record the image ID Number from the Metadata Table, and list all the people on your team.

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STANDARDS

Technology

Technology productivity tools

- Students use technology tools to enhance learning, increase productivity, and promote creativity.

Technology communications tools

- Students use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences.

Technology research tools

- Students use technology tools to process data and report results.

Geography

The World in Spatial Terms

- Standard 1: How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information.

- Standard 3: How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on Earth's surface.

ISS EARTHKAM WEB SITE

<http://www.earthkam.ucsd.edu/>



4. Label the image with whatever information is appropriate to your explorations of that image. (See ISS EarthKAM activity How to Explore Images for help with a general exploration of the image.)

- Draw a North arrow.
 - a. If you did step #3, draw an arrow that points straight up.
 - b. Draw an arrow in the direction of the arrow on the Image Viewer page, or use EarthKAM activity How to Find North to figure out which direction the arrow should point.
 - c. Label your arrow with an “N”. For example:
- Indicate the scale of the image. (See ISS EarthKAM guide How to Create a Scale Bar if you want to measure features in the image.)
 - a. Next to one of the long sides of the image, draw a straight line the same length as the image.
 - b. Label this line with Image Width from the Metadata Table.
 - c. Next to one of the short sides of the image, draw a straight line the same length as the image.
 - d. Label this line with Image Height from the Metadata Table.
- Identify recognizable features and add place names.
 - a. Choose a simple font.
 - b. Choose a font color that is visible against the image.
 - c. If necessary, draw a thin line connecting your text with the feature being labeled.
 - d. Place question marks on any features you are interested in but have not (yet) identified.
- Record any other data from the Metadata Table or your work that is important to your exploration of the image.



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