

Cool Toy of the Day

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Cool Toys pics of the day: SciMaps

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Places & Spaces: Mapping Science is meant to inspire cross-disciplinary discussion on how to best track and communicate human activity and scientific progress on a global scale. It has two components: the physical part supports the close inspection of high quality reproductions of maps for display at conferences and education centers; the online counterpart provides links to a selected series of maps and their makers along with detailed explanations of how these maps work. The exhibit is a 10-year effort. Each year, 10 new maps are added resulting in 100 maps total in 2014.

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Acknowledgments
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Places & Spaces: Mapping Science

<http://www.scimaps.org/>

I opened this up, and almost immediately unplugged my computer, grabbed the laptop, and started running all over the library showing people the screen. Such an exciting concept!

"Places & Spaces: Mapping Science is meant to inspire cross-disciplinary discussion on how to best track and communicate human activity and scientific progress on a global scale. It has two components: the physical part supports the close inspection of high quality reproductions of maps for display at conferences and education centers; the online counterpart provides links to a selected series of maps and their makers along with detailed explanations of how these maps work. The exhibit is a 10-year effort. Each year, 10 new maps are added resulting in 100 maps total in 2014."

Now, I am a tiny bit addicted to data visualizations, so this was, um, pretty special? /me beams. I also really liked that they have a

competition, so this is kind of crowdsourcing, albeit loosely defined.

Call for Maps for the 6th Iteration on "Science Maps for Scholars" (2010):

<http://www.scimaps.org/flat/call/>

The overall concept structure is fascinating, as is the outputs of images and maps for sale and the forthcoming book or two.

- * 1st Iteration (2005): The Power of Maps
- * 2nd Iteration (2006): The Power of Reference Systems
- * 3rd Iteration (2007): The Power of Forecasts
- * 4th Iteration (2008): Science Maps for Economic Decision Makers
- * 5th Iteration (2009): Science Maps for Science Policy Makers
- * 6th Iteration (2010): Science Maps for Scholars
- * 7th Iteration (2011): Science Maps as Visual Interfaces to Digital Libraries
- * 8th Iteration (2012): Science Maps for Kids
- * 9th Iteration (2013): Science Maps for Daily Science Forecasts
- * 10th Iteration (2014): Telling Lies With Science Maps

They are missing, tho, maps that change lives, as in the broad range of GIS applications to public health issues. That would be really interesting. I also bet there are a lot of neat related concepts other folks could come up with. I want to see this extended past 10 years. Oh, I can hardly wait ...

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