

ESRI International User Conference

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What is Geocaching?



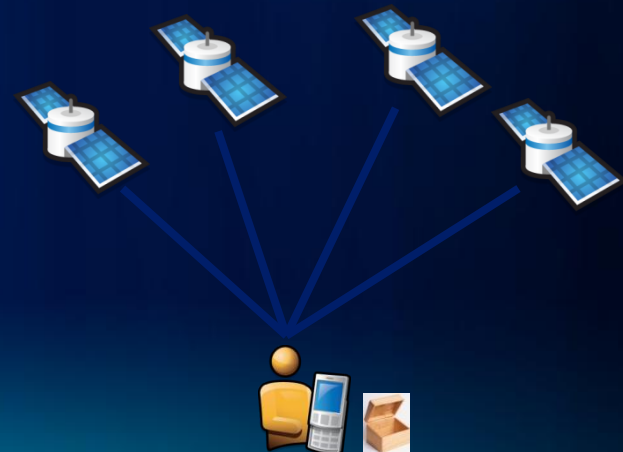
What is GEOCACHING?

- A treasure hunt!
- A game!
- Hide and seek!



How do you play?

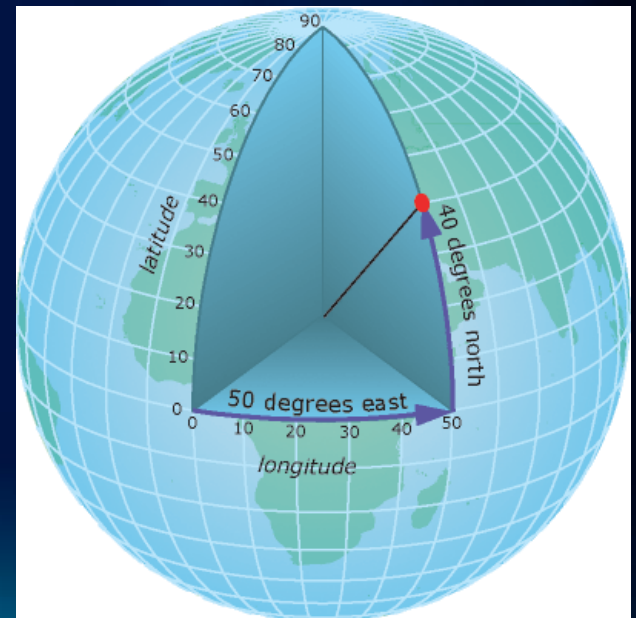
- **Hide a cache, but give its GPS coordinates as a clue**
 - Other clues and puzzles are sometimes involved
- **Seek the hidden cache using a GPS receiver and the coordinates**
- **Find the cache and record your findings in the logbook**



You are here (X, Y, Z)

What is GPS?

- **Global Positioning System**
 - 24 satellites in geostationary orbit
- **GPS receivers**
 - Receives information from the satellites
- **Geographic coordinates**
 - Position on the Earth's surface
 - Latitude and longitude
 - Given in Degrees Minutes Seconds or Decimal Degrees



How popular is geocaching?

- Over one million active caches
- Estimated 3-4 million participants worldwide
- Over 100 countries and all 7 continents (yes, Antarctica!) have geocaches



Geocaching vs. Virtual caching

- **Virtual caching highlights points of interest, and is ecofriendly**
- **Leave nothing, take nothing**
- **National parks only allow virtual caching in their boundaries**





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