

**PURPOSE:** The strategy builds students' background knowledge of the topic.

## Strategy 7 Instructions for Virtual Field Trips

Many Virtual Field Trips are available free. SEARCH for the topic that you are studying, for example, “*coral reef free virtual field trip*,” and see what turns up. This is an opportunity to teach vocabulary and build knowledge of a topic before reading.

*Sample Virtual Field Trip Sites:*

- <http://www.simplek12.com/virtual-learning/virtual-field-trips-every-teacher-ought-to-know-about/>
- <http://naturalhistory.si.edu/VT3/>
- <https://www.ships2career.com/menu.htm>
- <https://sites.google.com/a/ukr.qsi.org/tech-portal/virtual-field-trips>

**Using Google Earth** <https://www.google.com/earth/>

Select [Launch Google Earth], then you can search for any location by clicking on the magnifying glass at the left side of the screen. This takes you to an aerial view of the location.

**Points of Interest:** When a location has “Points of Interest” cards, they appear in the top, right corner of the screen. Click on the card to read information.

Click on the blue, paper-airplane icon and you will zoom in closer to the “Point of Interest.”

**Ground-level view:** Click on the Person icon (lower right corner) and blue lines (streets) will appear (if the ground-level view is available). Drag the person icon to a blue line and the view will be at ground level. You can click and grab the view to spin around for a panoramic view. If arrows appear, you can move along the street.