Geo-Capabilities in common social media APIs
Shawn Simpson and Bronwyn Agrios
Think about…

- **GIS**
  - A tool for examining geographic knowledge to better understand our world.

- **Social Media**
  - Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, Facebook, etc…
  - *Another source of geographic data*

- **Social Media content displayed on a GIS map**
  - A unique application of GIS that provides another means to better understand our world
Mapping Social Media | Examples

- Middle East Protests Map
- US Flood Map
- US Wildfires Map
- Libya Unrest Map
- Public Information Map
- ArcGIS Online
Mapping Social Media | The Social Media APIs

- Twitter Search API
- YouTube Data API
- Flickr API: flickr.photos.search method
Mapping Social Media | Twitter

- **Twitter Search API**
- **http://search.twitter.com/search.format**
  - Parameters
    - q
    - geocode
    - page
    - rrp
Mapping Social Media | YouTube

- **YouTube Data API**

- https://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/videos
  - Parameters
    - q
    - location
    - location-radius
    - time
Mapping Social Media | Flickr

- **Flickr API: flickr.photos.search method**

- **http://api.flickr.com/services/rest/?method=flickr.photos.search**
  - Arguments
    - api_key
    - tags
    - min_date_taken
    - max_date_taken
    - bbox
    - accuracy
    - has_geo
    - lat
    - long
    - radius_units
    - per_page
    - page
    - radius
Mapping Social Media | Lessons Learned

- Mashing up social media content can be tricky
- You never know what you are going to get
- Know how to get the most from your request
- Things can change at any time
- Know your rights!
- “Enhance your calm”
Mapping Social Media | Other APIs

- Facebook
- Four Squared – user generated POI database (Venues)
- Twitter Trending API/Twitter Streaming API
- Gnip
Session evaluation
http://www.esri.com/sessionevals