Improving Accessibility of your Story Maps

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What is accessibility?
What is Accessibility?

- Making something easier to use by people with disabilities
Accessibility guidelines and requirements

- World Wide Web Consortium’s **WCAG 2.0**

- US, EU, and many other governments use WCAG
  - Also might hear about US Federal Government's **“Section 508”** of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Areas of focus for story maps accessibility

- Keyboard navigation

- Support for screen readers
  - Including the ability for authors to add alternative text for media

- Readability
  - Text/background color contrast, font size, …
Automated testing

- Automated testing
  - Lighthouse audit in Chrome’s developer tools
  - Others…

- Results depend on story content and author choices
Using accessibility features of Story Maps

DEMO
Color contrast

- Story Maps target compliance with **WCAG AA**

- Default themes in MJ/MS comply with WCAG AA
  - Some other themes also compliant, but not all

- If you have customized colors or use a Shared Theme, be sure to check for compliance
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