ALA 8: Mapping Global Patterns of HDI

Purpose: To explore global economic development by mapping the spatial patterns of the Human Development Index (HDI) and its indicators across different countries

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the activity, students will be able to:

- **Interpret** HDI data and its component indicators related to health, education, and income
- **Apply** geospatial tools (Google My Maps) to map and visualize global data
- **Synthesize** quantitative data from an Excel dataset into a spatial map using Google My Maps
- **Analyze** spatial patterns and regional differences in human development using mapped data
- **Compare** countries across different HDI levels to identify similarities, differences, and inequalities
- **Evaluate** how geographic location and regional context relate to variations in human development

HDI Mapping Activity with Google My Maps: Instructions

- Students may work in small groups to explore the data, but **each student must create and submit their own map**.
- Example Map: https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1A0Wc5_fvSxAM7tnGfCNfhzZZf04gNWP_&usp=sharing

Follow these steps:

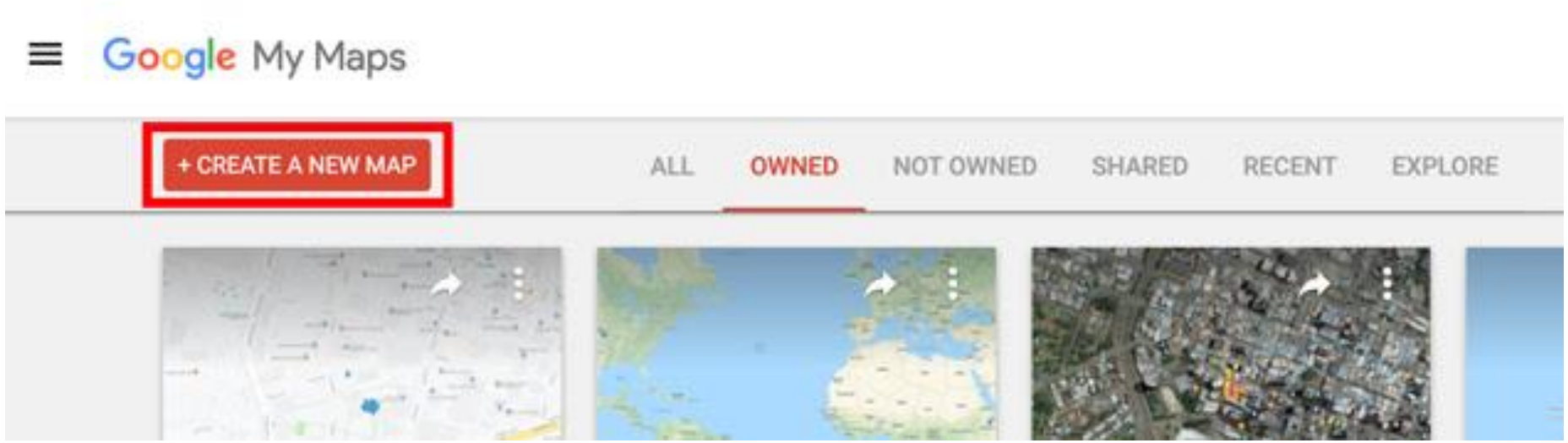
1. Download and open the Excel file containing 2023 HDI data.
2. Create a new Google My Maps project (***follow the tutorial in the next slides***)
3. Select **at least 10** countries to include in your map
   - Include countries from at least 3 different HDI categories (Very High, High, Medium, Low)
4. Add a point for each country (place the point roughly at the center of the country or its capital city)
5. For each point, include the following information ***(*see example in following slides***):
   - Point title/name: the country and its HDI level (Very High, High, Medium, Low)
   - Point description: should include the values for the following measures →
     - HDI Index Value
     - Life Expectancy at Birth
     - Expected Years of Schooling
     - Mean Years of Schooling
     - GNI per Capita
6. Customize your map and add descriptive information
   - Rename map and data layer
   - Change base map
7. **Share map, copy link and post it to the Canvas discussion board** (**remember to set sharing so that anyone with the link can view)*

Post-Activity In-Class Discussion:

- How does geographic location appear to influence HDI levels across regions of the world?
- Are there regions where countries have similar geographic locations but very different HDI levels?
- Are there countries in very different parts of the world with similar HDI levels?

Google My Maps Tutorial: Creating a New Map

1. Log in to your Google account
2. Go to Google My Maps: https://www.google.com/mymaps
3. In the welcome pop-up, select Create a new map:



Google My Maps Tutorial: Adding Points

1. Open your new map
2. Click → Add point with point tool in top toolbar
3. Wherever you would like to place the point, click on map
    - *In this case, click towards the center of the country to place a point for that country*
4. Insert a name for the point, and add a description
    - *In this case, for the name of the point → add the country's name and HDI classification*
        - *For example: "**United States – Very High**"*
    - *In the description → Insert descriptive statsitics relating to the given country*
        - *For example:*

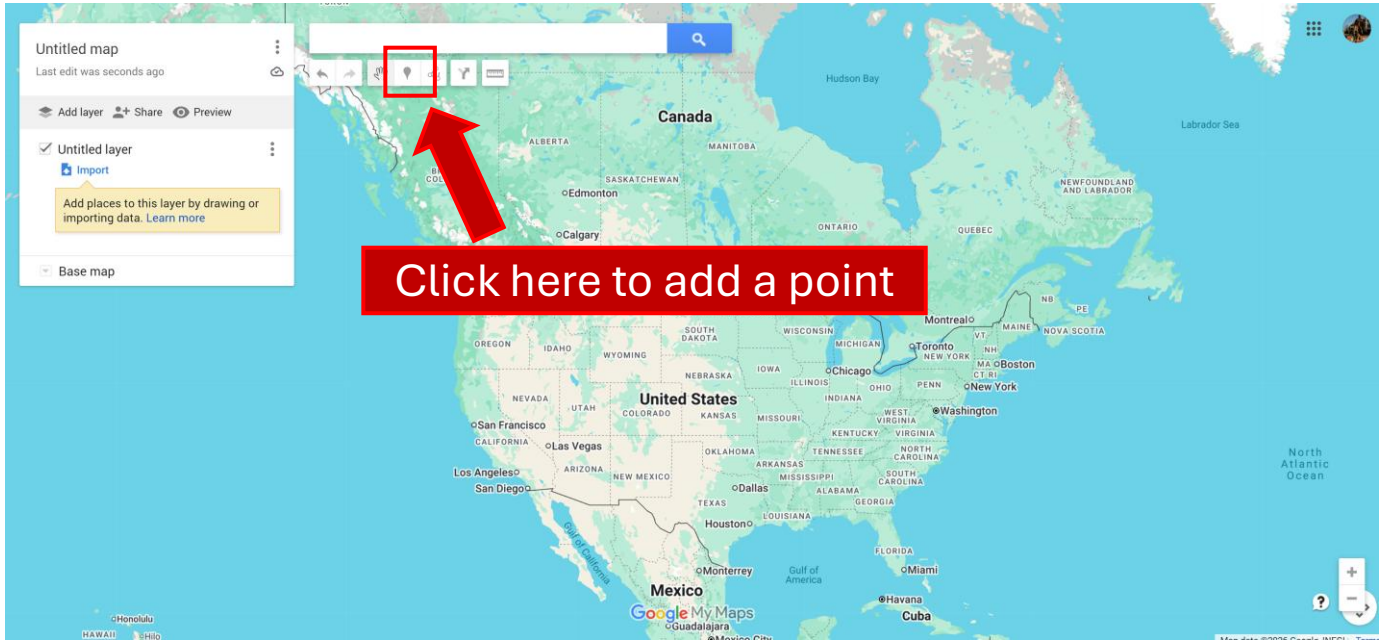
        "HDI Index Value: 0.938

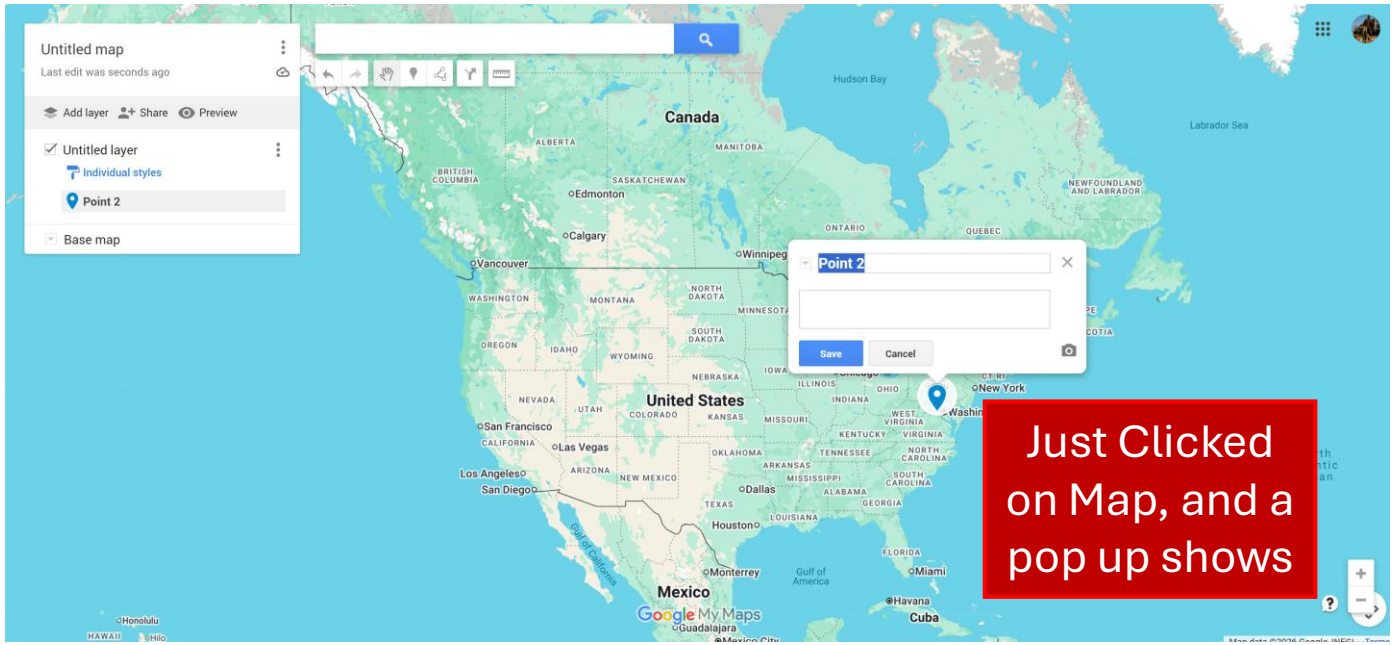
        Life Expectancy at Birth: 79.3

        Expected Years of Schooling: 15.9

        Mean Years of Schooling: 13.9

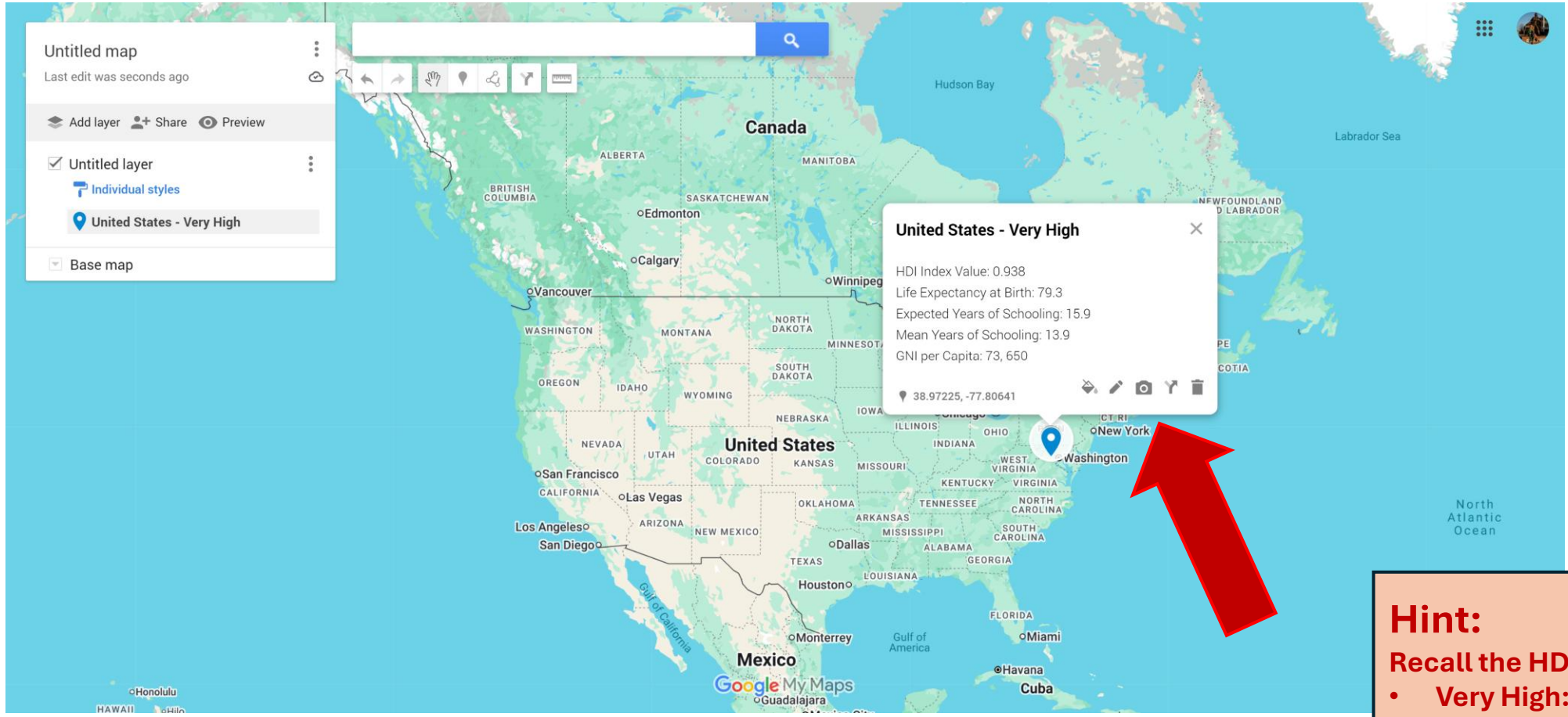
        GNI per Capita: 73, 650"





Google My Maps Tutorial: Adding Points

- For each country's point → This is what your point's name and description should look like



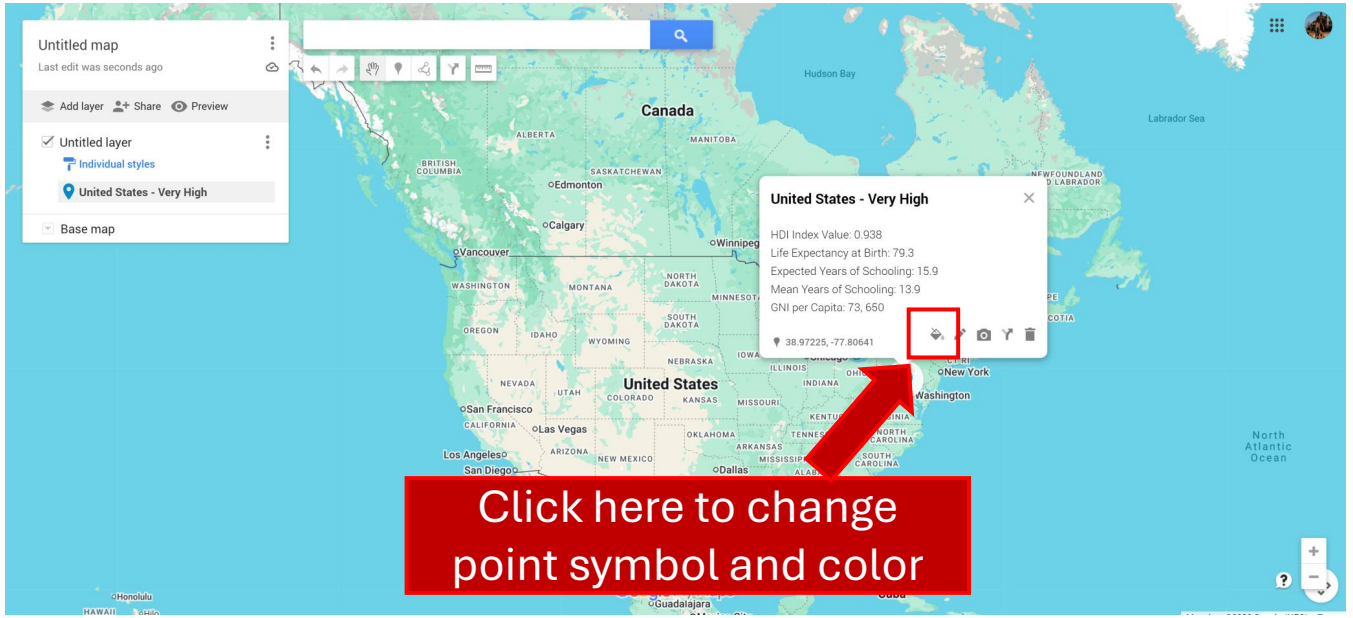
Hint:

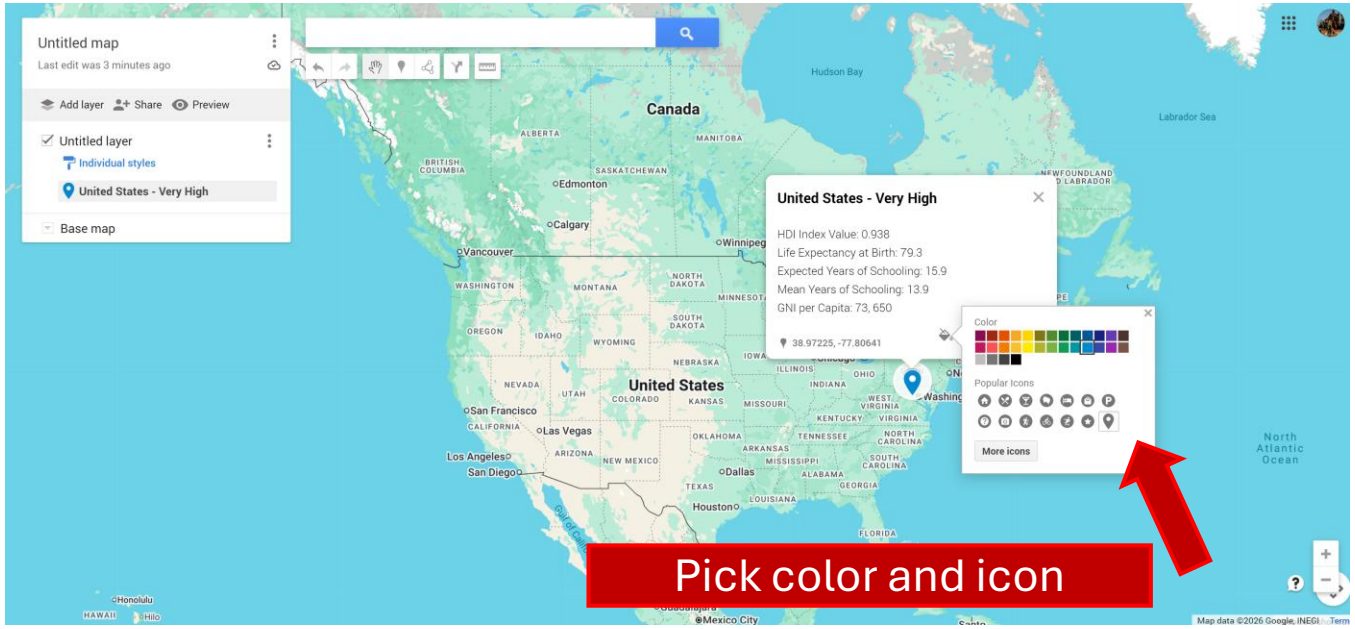
Recall the HDI groups are:

- **Very High: above 0.79**
- **High: 0.70-0.79**
- **Medium: 0.52-0.69**
- **Low: below 0.52**

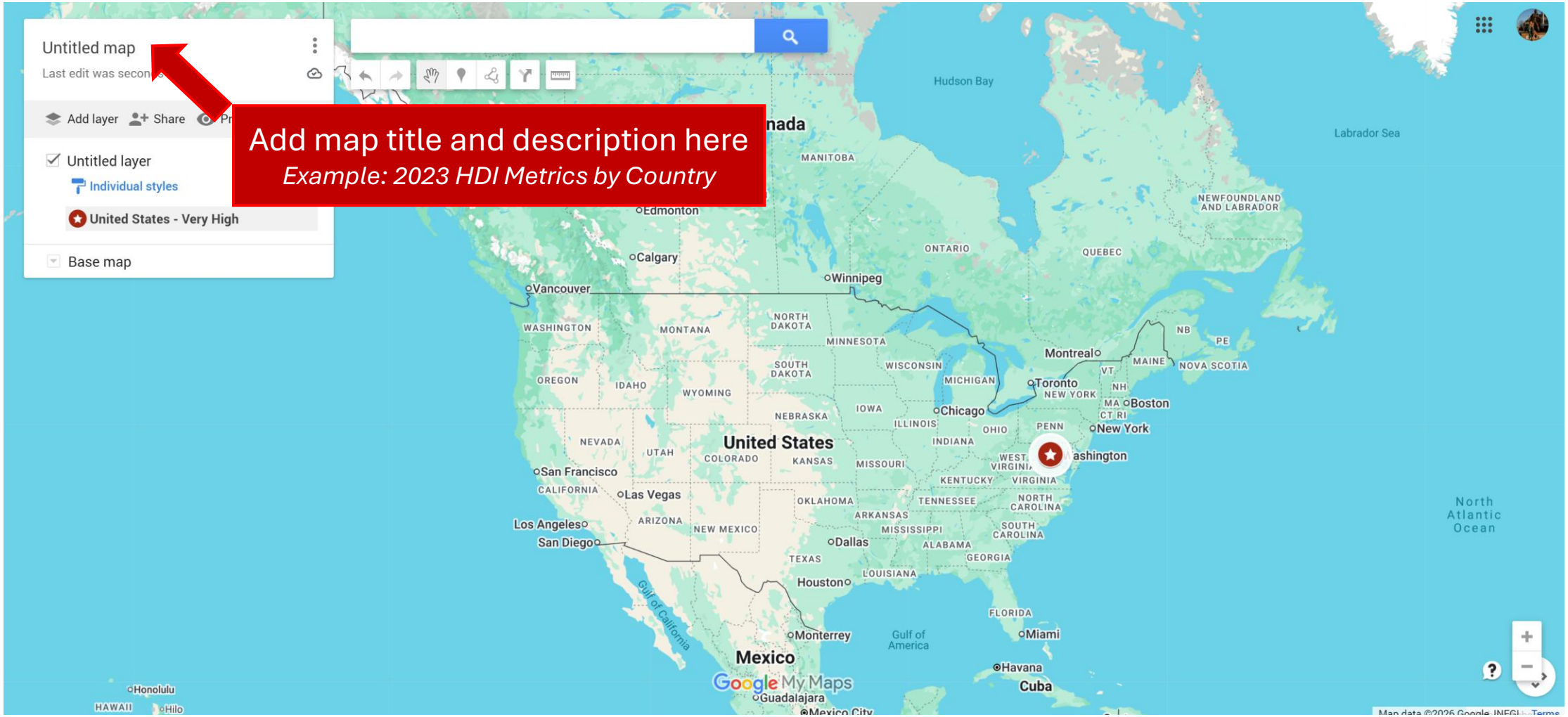
Google My Maps Tutorial: Symbolizing Points

1. Click on your point
2. Select the paint/bucket icon to change symbology of the point
3. Choose a color and icon
    - ***NOTE: Each HDI classification should have its OWN color and icon!***
        - *Recall the HDI groups are:*
            - *Very High: above 0.79*
            - *High: 0.70-0.79*
            - *Medium: 0.52-0.69*
            - *Low: below 0.52*
    - *So, Very High could be dark red with a star icon, High can be orange with a telescope icon, Medium can be yellow with a food icon and Low can be blue with a moon icon (these are examples, be creative)*

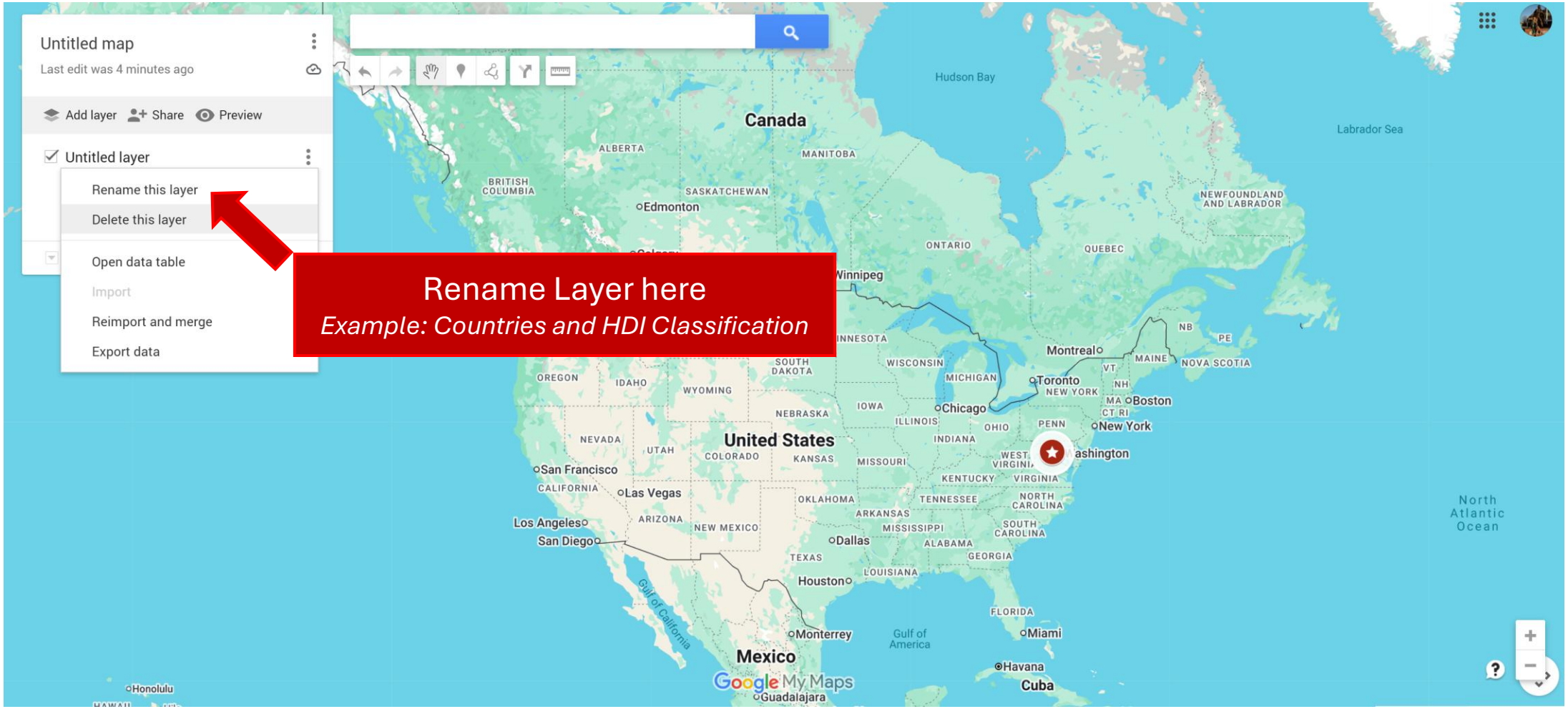




Google My Maps Tutorial: Adding Descriptive Features



Google My Maps Tutorial: Adding Descriptive Features



Google My Maps Tutorial: Other Features!

