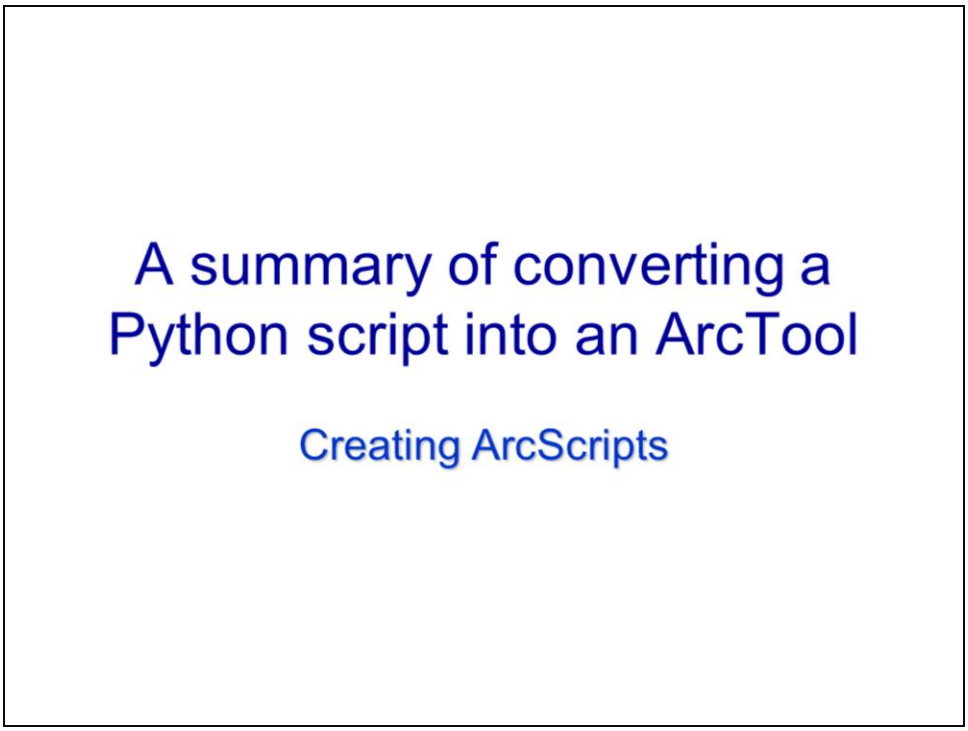
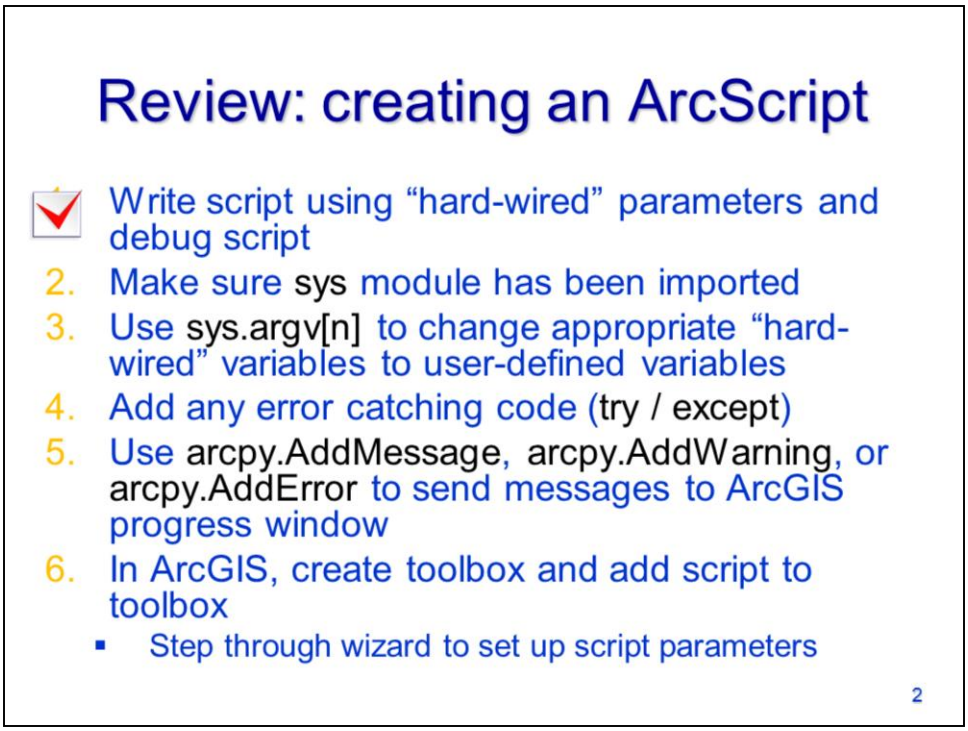


This video will provide a summary of the steps that should be taken to convert a Python script into an ArcTool.



In this slide, we'll create a checklist of the steps needed to convert a Python script into an ArcScript. The first step is to develop and debug the script in Python.

The second step is to make sure the **sys** module has been imported.

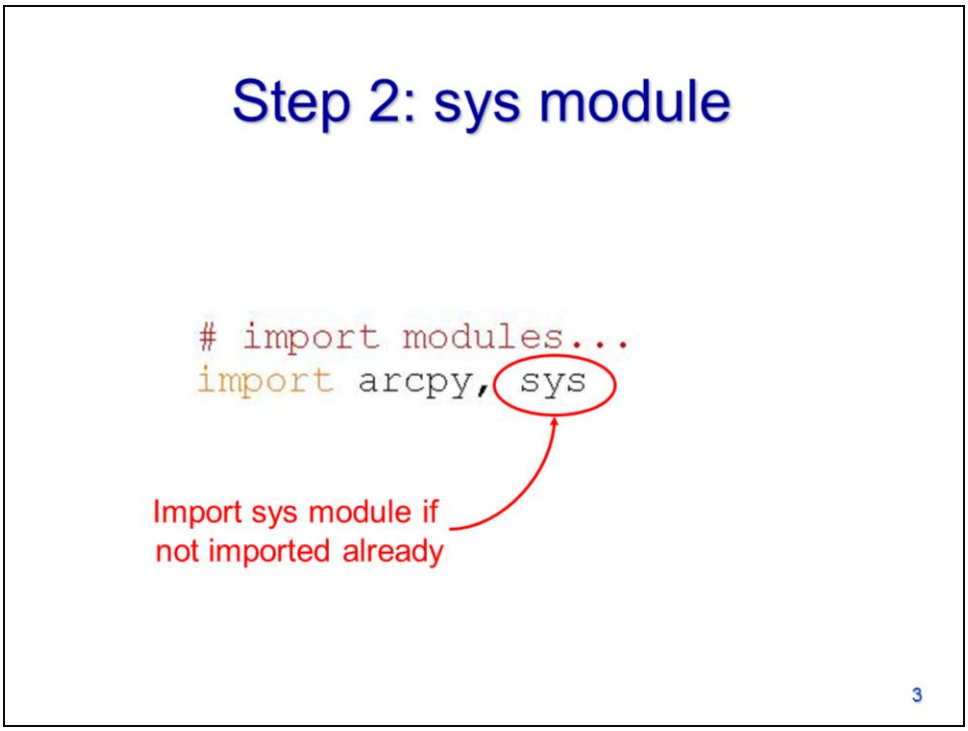
Use the sys module's **argv** function to change the appropriate hard-wired variables to user-defined variables.

Add try/except statements as needed to catch errors.

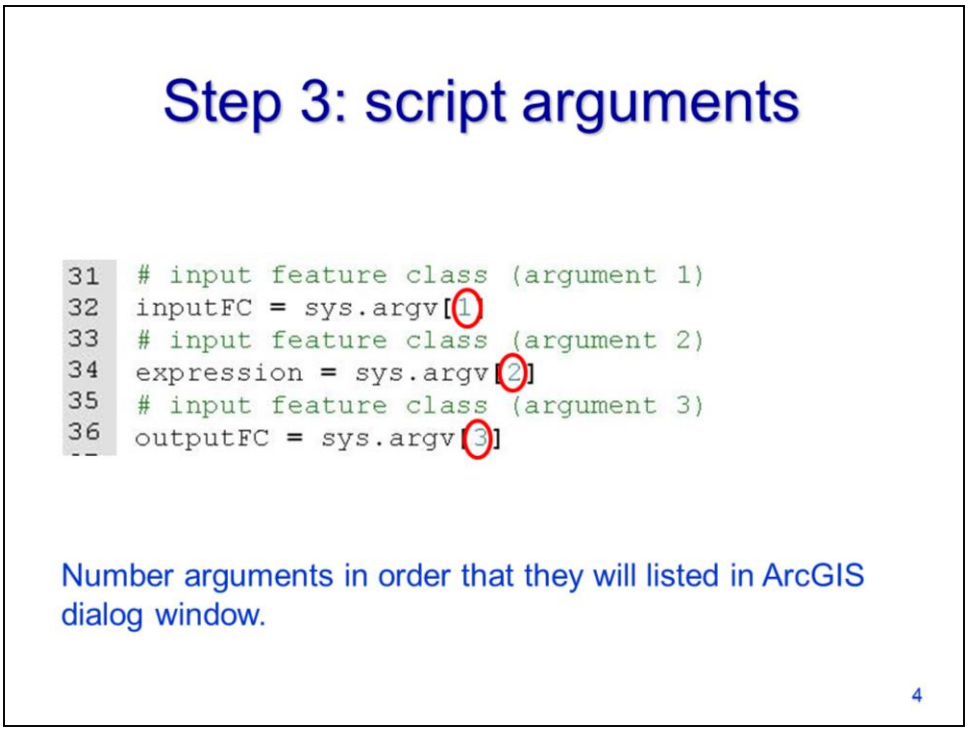
Use arcpy's AddMessage, AddWarning, and AddError tools, as needed, to print information to ArcGIS's progress window.

In ArcGIS, add the script to a new or existing toolbox using the script import wizard.

For this video, we'll assume that the script has been developed and tested.

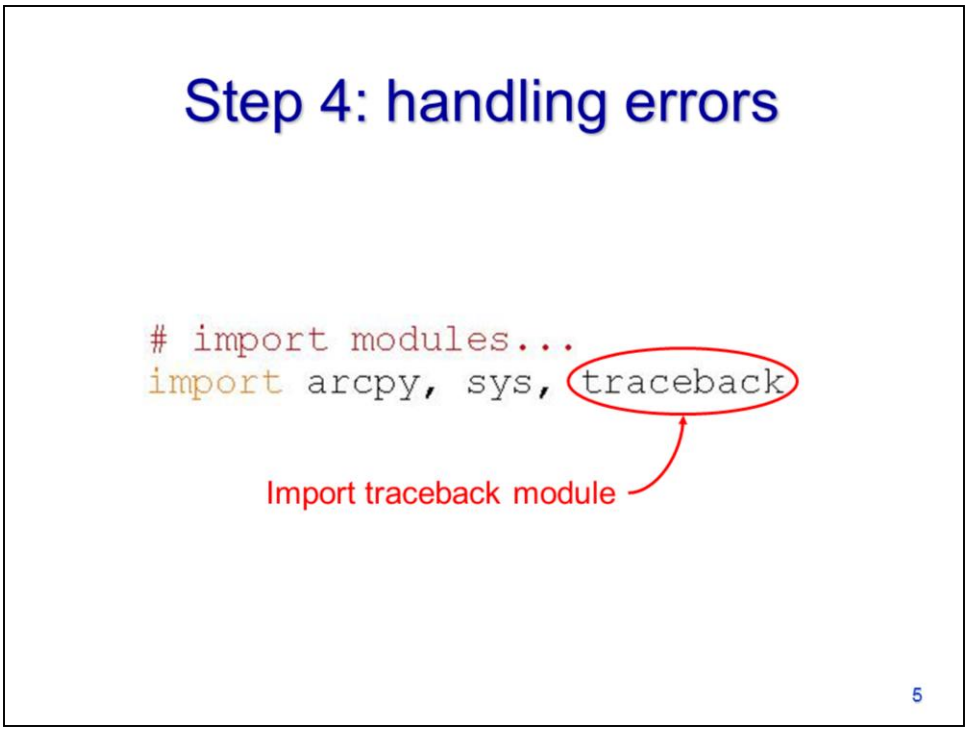


Step 2 in converting a Python script to an ArcScript is to make sure the **sys** module has been imported.

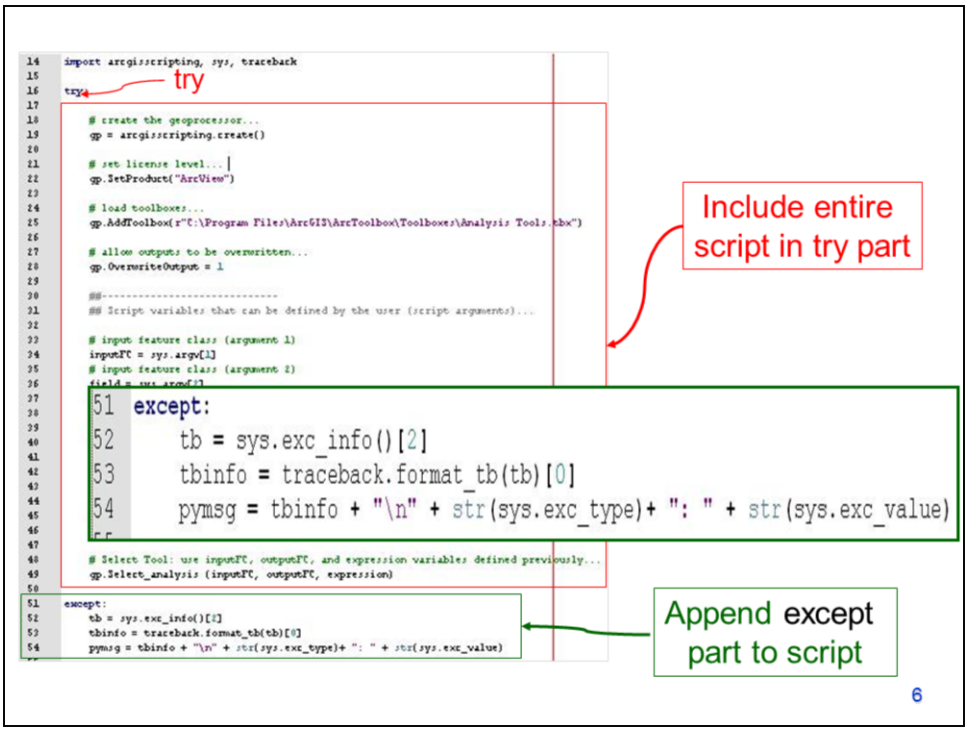


The next step is to replace hard-wired variables with user-defined parameters as needed.

The parameter numbers in the **sys.argv** functions should be in the order that the parameters will be requested in ArcMap.



Import the traceback module to allow error messages to be retrieved.

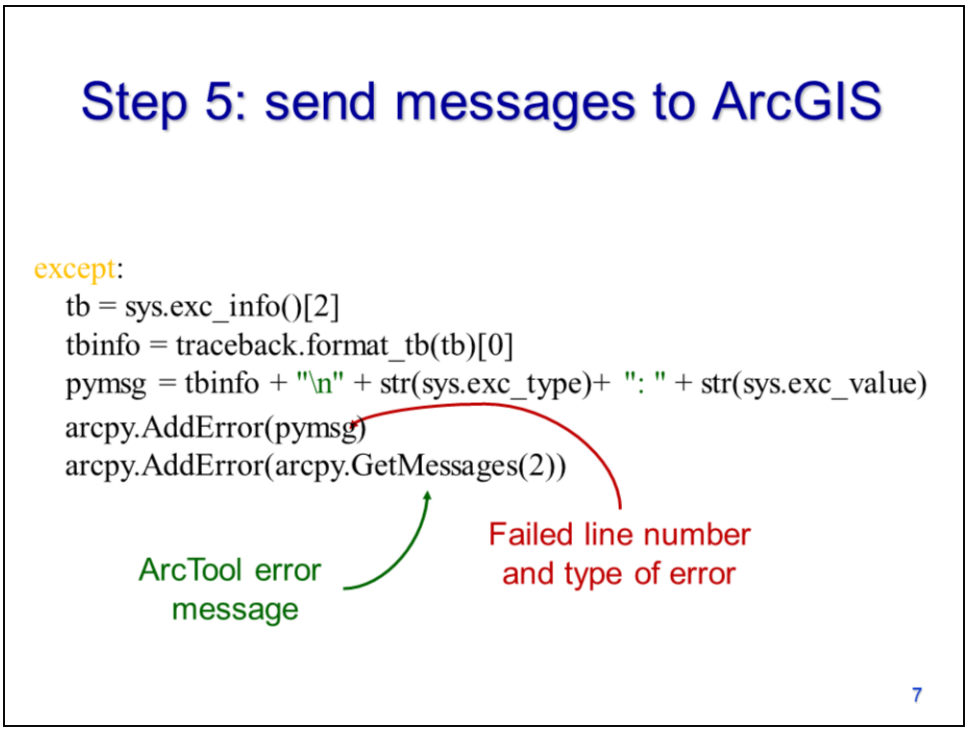


The try/except statement should be used to catch any errors in the script.

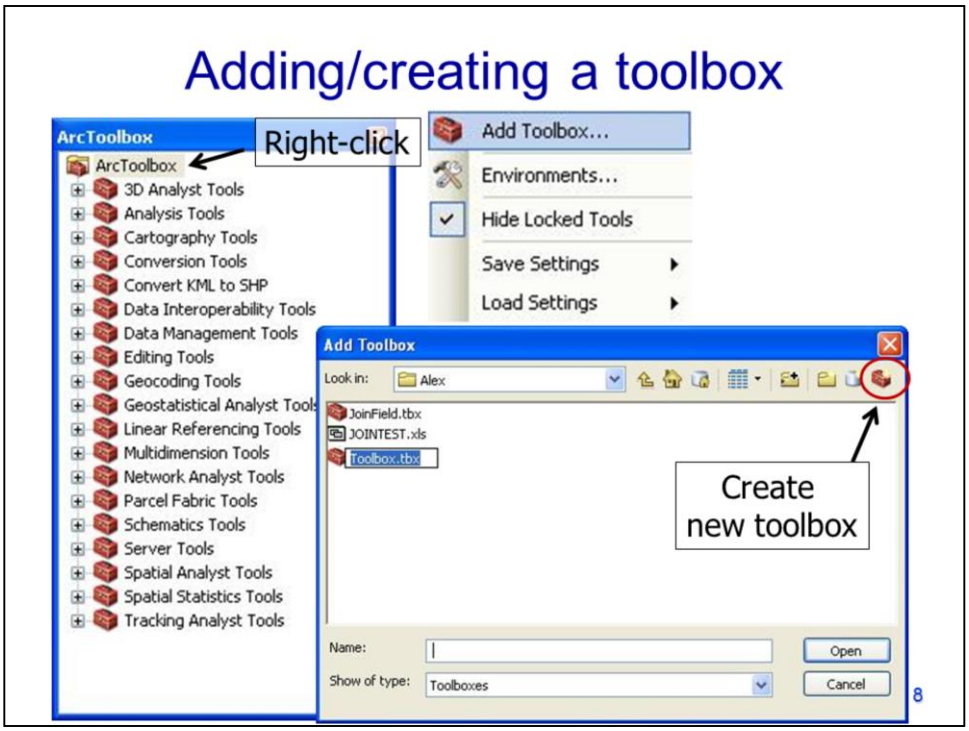
The entire script should be placed in the try part of the statement.

The except part of the statement should be appended to the end of the script and include the code shown here.

This code will extract Python error information from the traceback module.



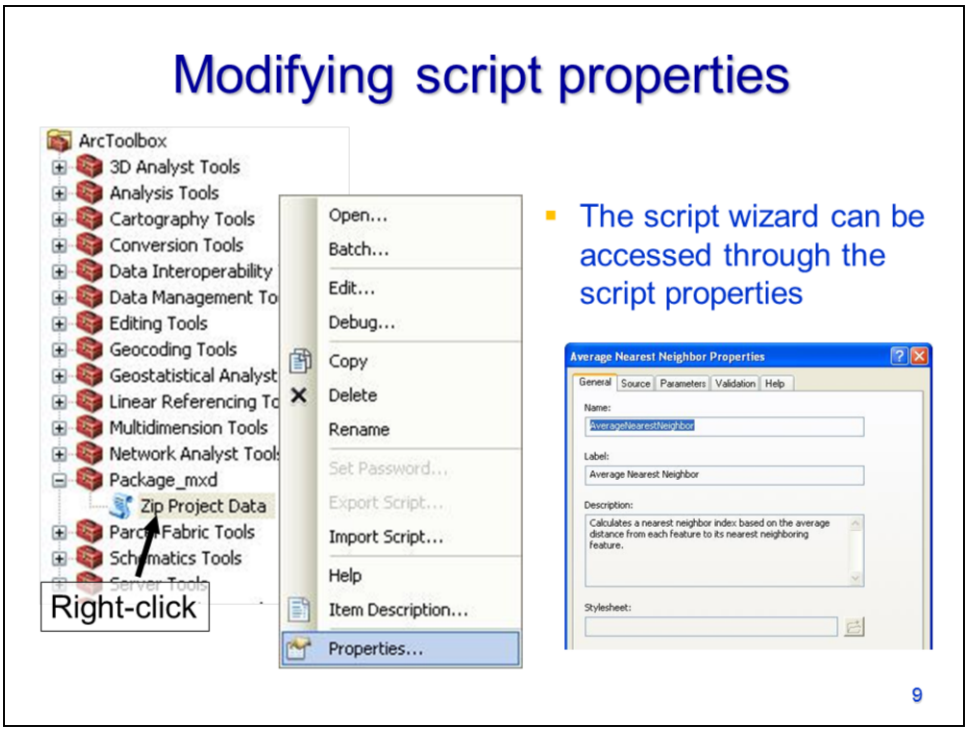
The AddError methods should be used to print the error information to the ArcGIS progress window. This information should include error messages from any failed ArcTools. The error information will helpful in troubleshooting the problem.



To import a script into ArcToolbox, an editable toolbox must be available.

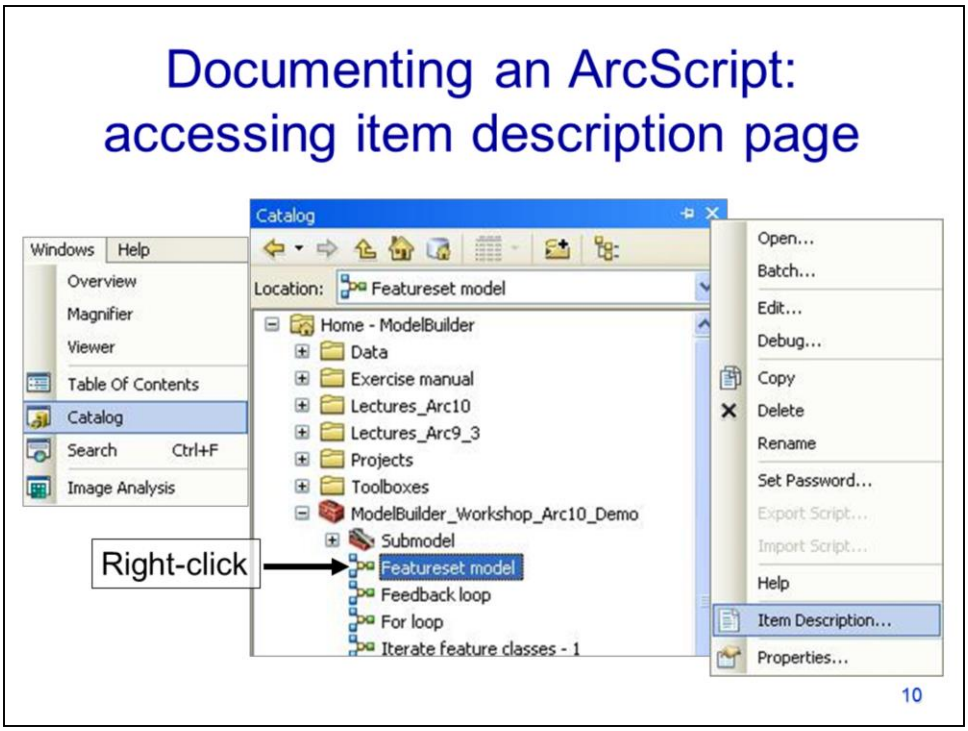
An toolbox can be added to ArcToolbox by right-clicking on ArcToolbox and then clicking on **Add Toolbox**.

Navigate to an existing toolbox or click on the **Create toolbox** button to create a new toolbox.



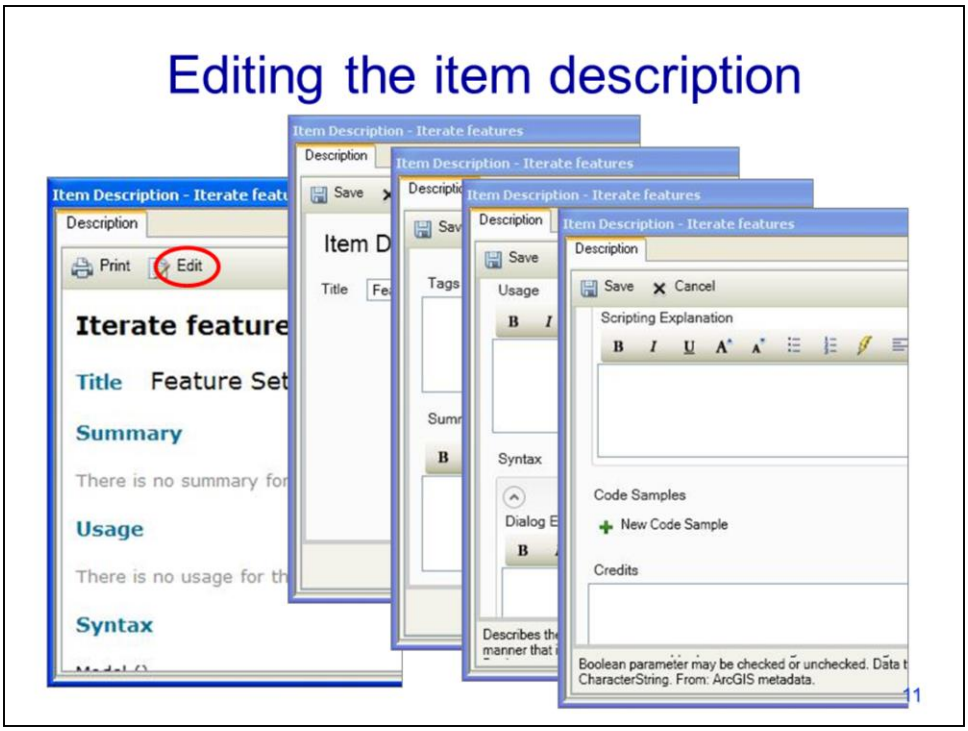
Add a script to the toolbox using the import wizard.

If an ArcScript's properties needs to be modified after it has been imported, then access the import wizard pages by right-clicking on the script and selecting properties. The tabs at the top of the Script Properties window will allow you to navigate through the pages of the wizard.



To add documentation to an ArcScript, locate the tool in the Catalog or ArcToolbox.

Click on the **Item Description** to access the tool's documentation.



Click on Edit in the Item Description page to add documentation.