



Compass Rose

BARBARA E. THOMAS

Grades: 4-7

Time: 1 or 2 lessons depending on group interest

Geographic Theme

To use a compass rose on a map, in the classroom, and in everyday life. The students will locate their cardinal directions and intermediate directions on maps.

Purpose

The students use daily experience and map skills to locate places on a map, and places in the school and classroom. We will use physical movement and flat maps with the intent of moving toward globes and different special maps.

Objectives

During the map unit we develop the essentials of maps, how they relate to flat maps and daily experiences. By using the compass rose we teach students how to locate places on a map.

Materials

- Chalkboard
- Paper
- Crayons
- Picture of compass rose

Procedures

1. Discuss the cardinal directions- North, South, East, and West.
2. Tell students where North is in your room, then ask if they can find south, west, and east.
3. Have class stand at desk and face north, south, west, and east.
4. Have class face the directions as you call them out- mix up the directions (i.e. north, east, south, west).
5. Have the class find northeast, southeast, northwest, southwest.
6. Have the class find the intermediate directions- mixed up.
7. Now the class should be able to locate all eight directions- in order and mixed up.
8. Take the class outside and try the same procedures as above.
9. Have students draw a Compass Rose on paper. Decorate it using pictures of compasses.

Evaluation

The students will be asked to draw a Compass Rose on all maps for the rest of the year.

National Geography Standards:

- 1: How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process and report information from a spatial perspective.
- 3: How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on the Earth's surface.



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