

Playground Position

Stage 3



Lesson Overview

Overview	Go on an exploration the playground to find places, items and directions.
Inquiry Questions	Consider: What do we know about the position of features in our playground? Act: How can we find places in the playground using north, south, east and west? How can a grid reference help us to find locations in the playground? Reflect: What new knowledge do we have about the places in the playground?
Syllabus Outcomes	MA3-1WM Describes and represents mathematical situations in a variety of ways using mathematical terminology and some conventions. MA3-17MG Locates and describes position on maps using a grid-reference system.
Equipment and Materials	Maps of the school and pencils Stamps Objects to hide Compass Sticks Camera/ device to take photographs for use in follow-up lessons

Lesson Details

Teaching and Learning Activities
Activity 1: Compass Points Mark a compass rose on the ground using large sticks. Label the points north, south, east and west. Play a compass game to reinforce the directions e.g. jump to face north, jump to face the direction you came from today, turn to face the direction the sun comes up. Continually ask what direction the children are facing.
Activity 2: Hidden Objects Working in pairs, one child is the hider and the other the seeker. One child hides an object and provides their partner with two or more directions to find it. The clues should include positional language, including compass directions and directions of the locations as relative to another e.g. the object is north-west of the school office and south of the oval.
Activity 3: Mapping Routes Provide partners with maps of the school grounds. As a class decide on a start and finish point. Partners mark routes on their maps between these points for other pairs to follow. As evidence they have followed the directions ask the children to mark features they pass on their maps as they go.
Activity 4: School Grids Before the lesson position witches hats with stamps on them in various areas of the school. Provide groups with maps of the school that have a grid reference system marked on them and include a list of grid references. In their groups find the grid references in the playground, mark that square with the stamp provided at the grid reference.

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