



ACTIVITY CHECKLIST



Q4 • Historical Reflection & Progress • Elementary Lower

Geography Exploration Map School & Draw Favorite Place

Before the Activity

- Review the Activity Overview for this activity.
- Review the “Your Town” resource for local geography in the 1700s.
- Prepare one or two maps for display (projector or printouts).
- Gather class sets of drawing paper and coloring tools.
- Review basic map concepts (relative directions, cardinal directions, compass rose).

Exploring the Historical Map

- Display the selected maps for students.
- Give students time to study the map quietly.
- Guide students through the questions in Section 2 of the resource.
- Discuss what their neighborhood might have looked like 250 years ago.
- Ask students to draw the view from their bedroom window 250 years ago, including plants or animals that may have lived there.

Map of Your School

- Research background information about your school:
 - Age of the building
 - Whether it was rebuilt or had additions
 - Who the school is named after and why
 - Number of students enrolled
- Have students guess the answers before sharing the correct information.
- Discuss these findings as a class.



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School Reflection Questions

- Ask students to share their favorite place in the school and why.
- Ask students to share their least favorite place and why.
- Ask if there is a part of the school they've never been in and what they think happens there.

Introduce Directions

- Teach relative directions: left, right, up, down, forward, backward.
- Demonstrate how to identify left using index finger + thumb "L" shape.
- Teach cardinal directions: North, East, South, West.
- Introduce acronyms such as "Never Eat Soggy Waffles" (or let students choose one).
- Explain the purpose of a compass rose.

Classroom Map Activity

- Introduce the task: Students will draw a map of the classroom.
- Include: door, teacher's desk, student desks, furniture, and major objects.
- Require inclusion of a compass rose.
- Provide printed compass roses or have students color, cut, and glue one onto their map.
- Prepare enough quarter-sheet compass rose printouts for each student.
- Give students time to draw and label classroom features.

Sharing & Extension

- Have students share maps in small groups.
- Compare and contrast map features within groups.
- Optional: Have students give each other directions using relative directions, then cardinal directions.
- Facilitate discussion:
 - Which type of directions is easier to follow?
 - Which type is easier to give?