



ACTIVITY CHECKLIST



Q4 • Historical Reflection & Progress • Elementary Upper Geography Exploration • Map Your Community

Before the Activity

- ☐ Review the Activity Overview for this activity.
- ☐ Review the five eras of New Mexico history to connect place and geography.
- ☐ Introduce the purpose of the activity: mapping your community.
- ☐ Gather community reference maps or online map images for teacher modeling.
- ☐ Prepare drawing materials and writing tools for students.
- ☐ Review map elements (title, legend, labels, compass rose).

Teacher Modeling

- ☐ Display a community map (digital or printed).
- ☐ Identify key features: streets, buildings, parks, schools, landmarks.
- ☐ Demonstrate how to read cardinal directions on the map.
- ☐ Point out how labels help clarify locations.
- ☐ Show how a simple legend is used to represent buildings and natural features.

Student Map Activity

- ☐ Students draw a map of their community or neighborhood.
- ☐ Include major streets or pathways they use regularly.
- ☐ Add important places (school, home, parks, stores, community buildings).
- ☐ Label each feature clearly.
- ☐ Add a legend with symbols for places or structures.
- ☐ Include a compass rose indicating cardinal directions.
- ☐ Encourage students to add additional meaningful landmarks from their daily routes.



ACTIVITY

CHECKLIST



Guiding Questions (During Map Creation)

- ☐ What important places help define your community?
- ☐ Which directions do you travel to get to school or other locations?
- ☐ Which landmarks help you know where you are?
- ☐ How does your map show the most important parts of your area?

Sharing & Discussion

- ☐ Students share their maps with the class or in small groups.
- ☐ Encourage students to compare similarities and differences in their maps.
- ☐ Discuss how maps help people understand where they live.
- ☐ Connect to how communities change over time and across NM history.

Optional Reflection

- ☐ Students write a short description of their map:
 - What they included
 - Why those places matter
 - What they learned about their community