



Compass Use Activity



NPS Photo/Charlotte Bodak

Goal

Students will be able to navigate through at least 5 landmarks in the outdoor campus using the directional signals of a compass rose. The affective goal of this activity is to have the students get outside and navigate through their natural world. I want them to see the importance of using a compass instead of just understanding how to read NSEW on google maps.

Materials

(Based on a class of 15)

- 25 bricks (or you can use tiles, rubber pads, mini cones, depending on how much help your students need or what is available)
- 15 compasses
- 25 plastic bags
- 1 cut up puzzle (see below)
- 5 strips of paper navigation strips (see below)

Procedure

Have students form groups of three and decide what role each will play of the following:

- Navigator: Keeps track of the starting and stopping points, confirms the compass is in the correct orientation before moving to the next point.
- Traveler: Their steps mark the paces of travel; they will be the first to move from point A to point B.
- Interpreter: Reads the directions on the groups colored card, confirms the direction in which to travel.

Students will be assigned a color team and asked to find the same-colored brick in the lawn. Once students are at their assigned brick, the teacher will explain that they will be navigating to five different points where they will find a brick labeled with the number of the station. At each stopping point, the group will find a small bag filled with pieces of white paper and one piece of paper the same color as their group. They are to open the bag and grab the colorful piece of paper with the instructions to get to the next location. Once they have collected the five baggies, they will head back to the picnic tables (if it's not too windy) and assemble the puzzle to figure out their scavenger hunt prize. To receive their prize, they will have to give the codeword on the puzzle.

Citation: Canva used for fonts and pictures

*Safety note: while students are navigating, the teacher will stand at the furthest end of the bricks in the event students go too far so they can steer them back

**This lesson was created by Shelby Mosher, Hancock County Grammar School, 2022



Walk East 15 steps and
North 5 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk Northeast 18 steps
and South 8 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk West 14 steps and
North 8 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk East 9 steps and
North 5 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk West 7 steps and
South 20 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"



Walk North 15 steps and
West 5 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk Northeast 16 steps
and South 10 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk West 15 steps and
North 9 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk Southeast 8 steps
and South 10 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk East 12 steps and
South 6 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"



Walk Southwest 15 steps
and East 7 steps

"IF YOU NEED HELP, RAISE YOUR HAND AND YELL" STRANDED"

Walk North 18 steps and
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West 8 steps

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Walk Northeast 9 steps
and South 5 steps

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Walk West 8 steps and
South 8 steps

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**Congratulations
Team!**



**You are navigation
masters!
You have earned this
classroom reward:**



**Redeem this
classroom reward
with the passcode:
Razzledazzle**

***ONE USE ONLY**