

Geography challenges booklet

#GeographyWeek

1. The Bird's Eye View Challenge

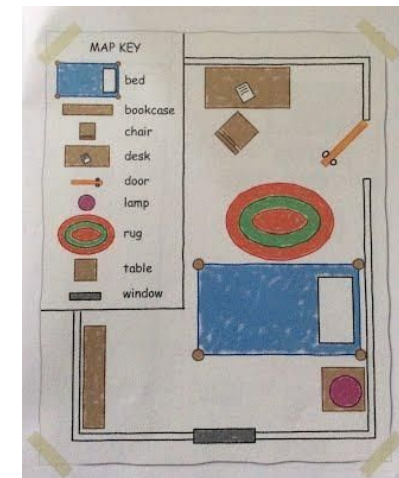
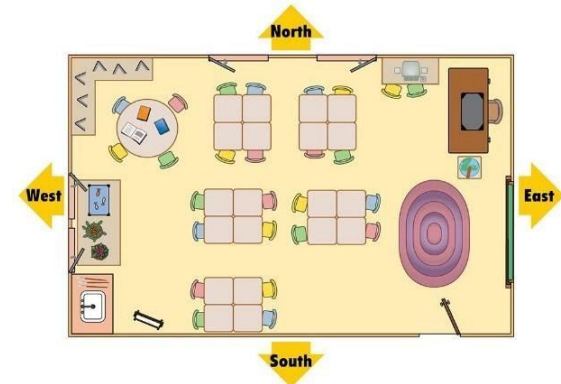
A plan shows us how something looks from above.

EYFS and KS1 children: Can you build something small that you are able to look down on?

Construction blocks work well but any small everyday objects will do. Can you draw what you see from above?

KS2 children: Can you draw a plan for a room in your house? Try to locate your furniture in the right place.

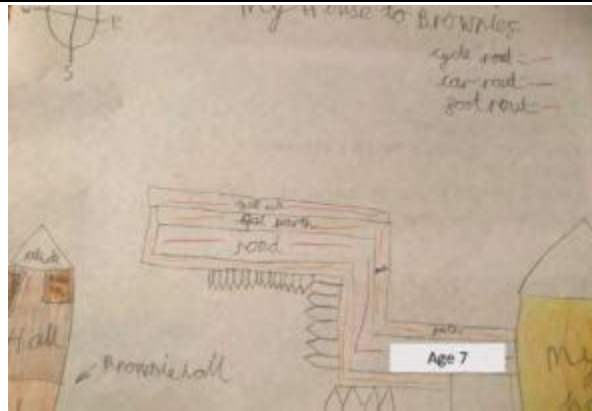
Super challenge Can you keep it roughly to scale e.g. the door is the same width as the window?



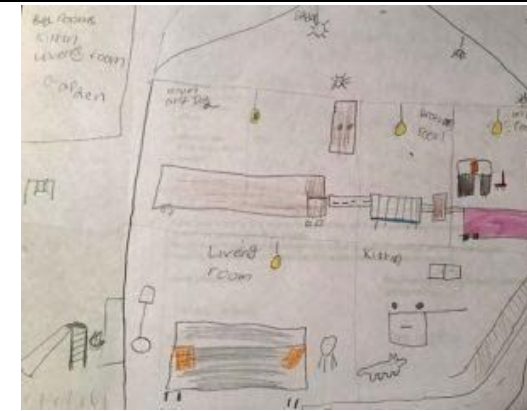
2. The Meaningful Maps Challenge

Geography is about so much more than just routes and directions. It is important to recognise how you feel about a place. By creating a 'meaningful map' children can show what is important to them. The map could be of their room, house, local area, park, walk to school, relative's house etc. Can you label any features on your map?

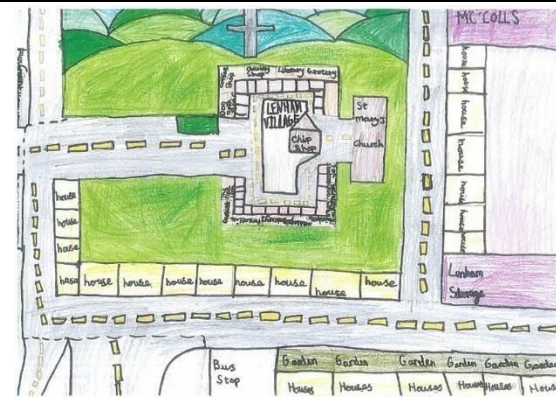
Note to parents
This should be something that children can do alone. With KS1 children, ask them to explain their map to you.



Age 7: "I did Brownies to my house for my map. Everything is fun there because we go on Pow Wows."



Age 7: "My bedroom and my Lego room are special and have special things in them."



3. The Journey Sticks Challenge

A journey stick (also known as a story stick or nature stick) is essentially a memento of a nature walk, featuring items collected whilst on the walk. These might be things like leaves, twigs, flowers, feathers or anything else natural that you find along the way.

To make a journey stick, you will need a few basic supplies.

Younger children can use a piece of cardboard with double sided tape attached to secure the items to the card. Older children can make a journey stick the traditional way by choosing a stick and attaching items to it using string or wool.

With all nature activities, you need to be mindful of protecting your surroundings. Make sure you spend a couple of minutes explaining this to children before you start, and only collect things that have fallen to the ground.



4. The 'Walk to School' Mapping Challenge

Dunsford Community Academy has an online subscription to Digimaps. This is a fantastic site, which allows children to explore Ordnance Survey maps at a variety of scales. Access the site [here](#) or search Digimaps for schools.

This activity allows you to explore local maps. KS1 children will need help to use this site from an older sibling or adult.

This activity can be completed no matter how you travel to school.



Access this activity [here](#) for detailed step-by-step instructions about how to map your route.
IMPORTANT: Any maps you save can be viewed by the whole school community. They will show your home address so you may choose not to save!



5. The Local Walk Mapping Challenge

This challenge allows you to map one of your local walks.

You will need to login to Digimaps to access a map of your local area.

In this activity, you will use the drawing tool to mark the route of your journey onto a map of your local area. There are various levels of challenge and technology required. Younger children will require some support.

You might want to watch this handy [video](#) from geographer Kit Rackley, where you can learn how to get the most out of Digimaps for children of all ages (Watch from 4 mins 20 onwards).

Options:

Measure the distance of your route
Add photographs of key points on the journey.

Add labels to the map.

Identify where there are dangers, such as road crossings.

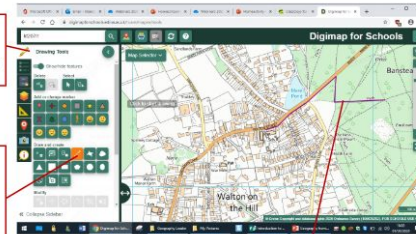
Add local interesting information to the map.

Task 5 – Plan a walk!

1. Click on drawing tools

2. Choose the straight line drawing tool. Scroll down if you want to change the colour of your line.

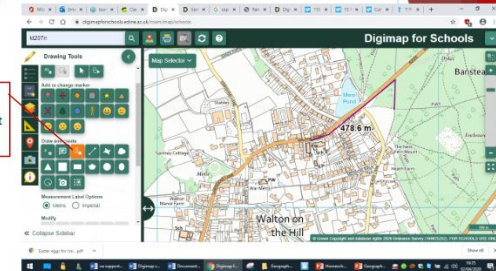
3. Draw a line to show where you want to walk. Click your mouse when you want to change direction. Do a double click when you have finished.



Measure the distance of your walk!

1. Choose measurement Tools

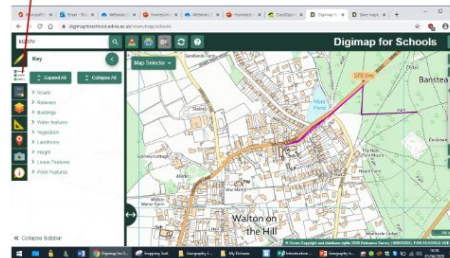
2. Click on the route you have drawn and it will tell you how long it is!



Use the key to find out what you might see on your walk!

Click on the key tab.

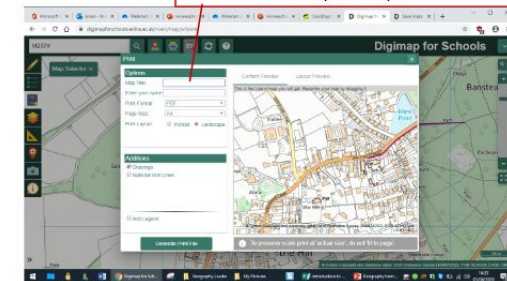
The key is split up into different features.



Now go on your walk!

- ▶ If you would like to print your map out, follow these instructions.
- ▶ Time yourself on your walk and work out how long it takes you to walk 1km!
- ▶ I don't recommend saving your map as it is accessible to anyone else who has our school log in details. This gives people information about where you live. **Think about safety!**

Click on the printer. Follow the instructions. The program will make a pdf of your map.



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