

GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATION: 2-3
MAPPING MY ROUTE TO SCHOOL
CONTENT AREA: SOCIAL STUDIES

LESSON TIME:
30-45 Minutes

MATERIALS:
1. School area map (found at mapquest.com or Google Maps)

2. Colored pens or pencils

ADDITIONAL:
School area map overhead

(Overhead) projector

Colored overhead pens

Other maps for comparison

OBJECTIVE: To create a map of each student's route to school (even if it includes multiple modes of transportation like walking to a bus stop then taking the bus route) and identify hazards along the way.

2ND GRADE STANDARD:

2: GEOGRAPHY

1. Use geographic terms and tools to describe space and place

3RD GRADE STANDARD:

2: Geography

1. Use various types of geographic tools to develop spatial thinking

PROCEDURE:

- Instruct students to use the map provided to trace their route to school using a colored pen or pencil (a yellow highlighter works the best).
- Students will probably have more than one route because they rely on different modes of transportation. Many people drive some days and walk or ride other days. Use different colors for each route and create a key. For example: yellow= driving route red= biking route.
- Instruct students to label any hazardous street crossings with circles
- Demonstrate using the overhead map and different colored pens.
- Have students talk about their routes and discuss some of the reasons they chose the route they did.

ASSESSMENT: Were students able to trace a route or routes accurately and create a color key to indicate which mode of transportation they were using? Were they able to identify hazards?

CLOSING: Ask the class to share some of the reasons they can't walk or ride to school and brainstorm possible solutions. Discuss the hazards identified and how they can take precautions (stop, look, and listen before crossing, peek around parked cars, make sure drivers see you by making eye contact or waving).