

GAI Traveling Map Activity: Simon Says North, South, East, or West!

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Lesson Title: "Simon Says North, South, East, or West!"

Activity Duration: 20-30 minutes

Age/Grade Level: Suggested for 2-4, but can be used for All Ages

Objective:

Students will gain an introduction to orienteering and learn to follow compass directions of North, South, East, and West.

Preparation: No preparation is required prior to the map's arrival.

Instructions (step by step):

1. Students will be asked to take off their shoes and put on provided socks (unless already wearing some)
2. Students will then be asked to stand around the perimeter of the map
3. Each student will be handed a mini-compass provided in the GAI trunk
4. Once given a compass students will be asked to make observations of their compass and asked questions such as:
 - Who knows what this is?
 - What do the letters N, S,E, and W mean?
 - What do you use a compass for?
5. Students will now play a game of "simon says" to run N,S,E, and W
6. After getting comfortable with going all four directions on the map, students will then divide into groups
7. Each group will be given cards of a location on the map
8. Students will then need to find towns that are N,S,E, and W of their given town.
9. Compass rose worksheets will be provided to help record towns found
10. Finally students will regroup, and share the towns they found with the rest of the group
11. To close, leaders can conduct a brief discussion on how some towns that are (n,s,e, o w) may be closer or much farther, yet both are within that same direction
12. It is also optional to identify the states that are north, south, east or west

Materials Needed: mini compasses, socks, compass rose worksheets

Follow up tasks (if any): Compass rose worksheets can be used in the classroom and/or taken home. Students are also encouraged to compare sheets as a follow - up discussion in the classroom

