



#3626

LEARN WEST AND YOU'LL KNOW THE REST

Grade Levels: 2-6

16 minutes

FILM IDEAS, INC. 1998

2 Student Activity Sheets

DESCRIPTION

Elementary students learn the four geographic directions with a simple rhyme: Learn west and you'll know the rest. Reminds viewers the sun sets in the west; if one direction is known, the other three can be determined. Plays several games to reinforce how easy it is to locate north, south, east, and west.

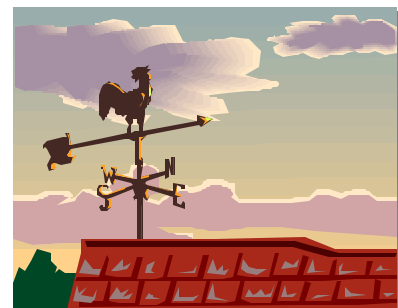
ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Geography of Places and Regions

- ◆ Standard: Understands the concept of regions
 - Benchmark: Knows areas that can be classified as regions according to physical criteria (e.g., landform regions, soil regions, vegetation regions, climate regions, water basins) and human criteria (e.g., political regions, population regions, economic regions, language regions)
 - Benchmark: Understands how regions change over time and the consequences of these changes (e.g., changes in population size or ethnic composition; construction of a new shopping center, a regional hospital, or a new manufacturing plant; changes in transportation; changes in environmental conditions)

Subject Area: History

- ◆ Standard: Understands family life now and in the past, and family life in various places long ago
 - Benchmark: Understands family life in a community of the past and life in a community of the present (e.g., roles, jobs, communication, technology, style of homes, transportation, schools, religious observances, cultural traditions)
 - Benchmark: Knows ways in which people share family beliefs and values (e.g., oral traditions, literature, songs, art, religion, community celebrations, mementos, food, language)



AFTER SHOWING

1. Have the students dress up like people from different cultures or use pictures of those cultures. In doing so, remind the students which direction those cultures exists.
2. Draw a map of your local town, using helpers as guides to understand East, West, North or South directions. (Use local parks, schools, other towns in relation to your own town, etc.)
3. Show and demonstrate the use of a real compass.
4. Have the students at their own homes choose helpers as guides to indicate East, West, North or South directions. For example, which direction is a window in their bedroom facing, or the front door of the house, or others.
5. Like Adam, Alice and Beth, assemble the students outside or in the gymnasium to mark objects East, West, North, or South.
6. Play the "Treasure Hunt" game, offering East, West, North, or South directions as clues to other clues, which lead to a secret prize. (Organize students in small groups or as partners.)



RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Directions (Second Edition) #2166
- What's in a Shadow? Finding Directions #2644

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid-safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **MAP ADVENTURES**

<http://www.usgs.gov/education/learnweb/MA/#nikki>

Early elementary unit with graphics and simple text (for strong readers). Working with maps explained, bird's-eye view examined, and more. Cute and clearly curriculum-based.



- **LATITUDE**

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~feegi/>

Explains the history of map making and the need for an understanding of latitude and longitude to sail the world.

- **FINDING YOUR WAY**

<http://mapping.usgs.gov/mac/isb/pubs/factsheets/fs07999.html>

Finding your way with a map and a compass. Detailed information for the teacher. Magnetic poles, topography, and more.



- **ONLINE MAP CREATION**

<http://www.aquarius.geomar.de/omc/>

Background information to get you started, and a hands-on experience.

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS

- Around Town
- World Traveler