

Geography Alive: Early Stage 1 Geography (Unit 2)

Lesson 4: My school's community		
<p>Content focus:</p> <p>In this lesson students explore the features of maps. In doing so, they start with the familiar – the school community. Students compare a map of the school with an aerial photograph or satellite image. They use Google Earth to explore the community surrounding the school.</p>		<p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Google Earth and Google Maps • Copy of school map for each students to used • Enlarged copy of school map <i>or</i> display on interactive whiteboard • Labels to place on the school map • Colour pencils and glue
<p>Key inquiry questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we locate places on maps? • How do we identify features of map? 	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p><i>A student:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifies and locates places on a maps of the school and develops an understanding of the importance of places to people • identifies the relationship between places on a map and an aerial photograph/satellite image • communicates geographical information and uses geographical tools. 	<p>Lesson sequence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1: Display a map of the school on the board for all students to view. Discuss with students the view of the map. If it was a photograph where do you think the photographer would be when the image was captured? Ask students if they have been in a plane and looked down at the ground? This view is called birds-eye-view. Have the students compare the school map with an aerial photograph or satellite view of your school taken by a drone or sourced from Google Earth. Ask students if they can see similarities or differences. • Step 2: Take class for a walk around the school giving each student a copy of the school map. Ask individual students if they can find the places on the map as you walk around. • Step 3: When you return to the classroom, give each student a blank map of the school. Ask them to locate areas that they visit frequently. These can include library, canteen, classroom, play ground and school hall. Glue the maps into their Geography books. Alternatively, students may like to draw their own map of the school on a large piece of paper. • Step 4: Display a large map of the school in the classroom with these areas labelled for students to use as a reference. • Step 5: Using Google Earth, explore the area surrounding the school. Locate landmarks such as the local shopping centre, nearby sporting grounds, parks etc.