

Geography Alive: Stage 1 Geography (Topic 1; Unit 1)

Lesson 2: A walk around the school		
<p>Content focus:</p> <p>This lesson consolidates the concepts of natural and human features which are central to an understanding of geography and the environment. It also introduces children to the central role of fieldwork and personal observation in Geography.</p>		<p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital camera or smart phone for photographing features around the school. • Access to aerial photographs of the schoolyard sourced from Google Earth.
<p>Key inquiry questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What features of local places are natural and what are made by humans? • How are natural features altered by humans and human features altered by nature? • How do people care for the school buildings and schoolyard? 	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p><i>A student:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • observes and describes features of the schoolyard and classifies them as natural or human • identifies ways in which people interact with and care for places. 	<p>Lesson sequence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1: The teacher describes the project of walking around the school, looking for natural and human-made features. • Step 2: Possible examples of features are discussed and classified before leaving the classroom. • Step 3: Students could be grouped together in twos or threes, so that one has a camera, while one writes down the name of each feature. • Step 4: The teacher would need to lead the class at a slow pace around the school, making suggestions of features that could be photographed and listed, in such a way that it stimulates students to suggest other features. This is an example of scaffolded inquiry. • Step 5: At the end of the walk, the teacher can consolidate the lists and photographs made by the children. • Step 6: The route taken by the walk could be looked at on an aerial photograph of the school found on a Google map or image.