

LIFESAVING VOLUNTEERS TO THE RESCUE

Level: 3 & 4

Activity: 1

Overview

The world looks very different from above, so the pilot of the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter uses GPS to navigate to the rescue site. During this activity, students will become familiar with the important features of maps and create a simple map of their school. They will use a grid reference system to give the location of a hidden object for a classmate to find.

Resources

- Smartboard
- Appendix A: *What does your world look like from above?*

Activity

ENGAGE

As a whole class watch the [Treasure Hunt](#) video. Ask students to listen out for directional language and make a list of these words on the board after the video. Use the [Rainforest Map](#) activity as a whole class to practise using a grid reference system to describe locations. Ask students:

- How are the mountains represented?
- What types of aquatic environments can you see? How are they represented?
- What do you think the different shades of green represent?

EXPLORE

Students now create their own maps of the school (use Appendix A: *What does your world look like from above?*)

EXPLAIN

Ask students:

- What are the important features that help us read maps? (Look again at the [Rainforest Map](#))
- Does your map have a legend/title/north point? Have you included a grid reference system?
- What symbols have you used to represent the different locations within our school?

Students pair up and offer their partner three suggestions about how their map could be improved.

ELABORATE

Students choose a location within the school to hide their 'treasure' (this could be a note or a small object). They need to pair up with another student and give their partner the grid reference of their hidden object. Each student can then hunt for their partner's 'treasure'!

EVALUATE

Discuss with the class:

- Did you find the object?
- What helped/hindered your effort?
- When might you need to use a map in real life?
- Why do you think the pilot would use a GPS rather than a map to find the rescue location?

Curriculum Links



Level 3		
MATHEMATICS	<u>Measurement and Geometry:</u> Location and transformation	Create and interpret simple grid maps to show position and pathways (VCMMG143)
GEOGRAPHY	<u>Geographical Concepts and Skills:</u> Data and information	Represent data and the location of places and their characteristics by constructing tables and simple graphs and maps of appropriate scale that conform to cartographic conventions of border, scale, legend, title and north point (VCGGC075)
		Interpret maps and other geographical data and information to develop identifications, descriptions, explanations and conclusions, using geographical terminology including simple grid references, compass direction and distance (VCGGC076)
Level 4		
MATHEMATICS	<u>Measurement and Geometry:</u> Location and transformation	Use simple scales, legends and directions to interpret information contained in basic maps (VCMMG172)
GEOGRAPHY	<u>Geographical Concepts and Skills:</u> Data and information	Represent data and the location of places and their characteristics by constructing tables and simple graphs and maps of appropriate scale that conform to cartographic conventions of border, scale, legend, title and north point (VCGGC075)
		Interpret maps and other geographical data and information to develop identifications, descriptions, explanations and conclusions, using geographical terminology including simple grid references, compass direction and distance (VCGGC076)

Sample Report Comments

{Name} was able to visualise the layout of their school from above. {He/She} created a map of their school and included the appropriate features, such as a legend, title and north point.

{Name} can use a simple grid reference system to describe and find locations on a map.

References

ABC Splash & Suitcase Murphy, 2014. *Treasure Hunt*. [online video] Available at: <http://education.abc.net.au/home#!/media/1566306/treasure-hunt> [Accessed 7 April 2018].

ABC Education, 2003. *Welcome to the Rainforest*, http://education.abc.net.au/res/i/L350/li_001_gv_006/index.html [viewed 27 March 2018].

