

Let's Investigate our Place

Steps for Learning 1

Geography KS1



Let's Investigate our Place: Steps for Learning 1

Geography

Key Stage 1

Key Questions

- what is a place like?
- what human and physical features does it have?

Learning Outcomes

- to make observations
- to create an annotated field sketch
- to consider others' viewpoint

Curriculum Links

Purpose and Aims

- understanding of change over time

Place Knowledge

- understand geographical similarities and differences

Human and Physical Geography

- use basic geographical vocabulary

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds

Big Ideas

- place
- space
- environment

Formative Assessment Opportunities

- first hand observations
- basic geographical vocabulary



Key Vocabulary

Season. Fieldwork. Observation.

These can also be found at the end of this PDF in printable format for your working wall.

Resources

- paper and clipboards
- optional: the book, '*Belonging*' by Jeannie Baker (<https://www.jeanniebaker.com/book/belonging/>)
- optional the video, '*Window*' by Jeannie Baker (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hU77AXW-BE>)

Activities

1. Take the pupils out to the playground. In pairs, challenge pupils to find something that represents each letter of the alphabet. If it is raining heavily this can be inside or through a window.
2. Look through slides 4 to 10 of the PowerPoint presentation twice. They depict the same scene across the four seasons and also across a number of years, and offer a range of subtle changes for the children to identify. The first time ask pupils to think about what they can see and what is happening.

As you look through a second time ask the children a series of questions:

- What can you see? What shapes and colours can you see? Which occur the most/least?
- What kinds of buildings can you see? What happens there?
- What sounds might you hear?
- What are people doing and saying? (Opportunity for roleplay)
- What is changing? How and why might it be changing?
- Are the changes happening over hours, days, weeks, years?
- Who is making the changes? Who decides on the changes?
- What might you see if you look out again in two, five or 10 years?
- What would you add, remove, make bigger or smaller- why?
- Are the changes good, bad or neither? If good/bad then for who?

These are also on the accompanying word document (giving you the option to amend questions to your liking). Some of the questions can be discussed within small groups and responded to.



3. Explore the **Window Swap** website (<https://www.window-swap.com/Window>). Ask the children which views they like or dislike. And why.
4. Take a tour around the school to find the 'worst' view through a window and consider how this could be enhanced. Any ideas could be shared with the school council or SLT.
5. Ask pupils to create a sketch of the view from a window at school. They could label what they see. They might also take photos and then repeat this at different times of the day and/or on different days. A window diary.
6. Ask pupils to create a similar sketch for what they can see from a window in their house. They could also think about what they would most love to see out of that window, then draw and label it.

Extension idea: You might enjoy reading Jeannie Baker's book, ***Belonging*** (<https://www.jeanniebaker.com/book/belonging/>), which shows how a community changed an urban area over the lifetime of a girl called Tracy (from baby to older child). Or you might enjoy the video of the book, ***Window*** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hU77AXW-BE>) which follows a similar theme but uses a window that overlooks a more rural setting at the start.

PowerPoint Presentation

The accompanying PowerPoint presentation has 13 slides.

- Slides 1 and 2 introduce the lesson.
- Slide 3 supports Activity 1. It shows an example playground with things beginning with the first few letters of the alphabet.
- Slides 4 to 10 support Activity 2.
- Slide 11 introduces the Window Swap website.
- Slide 12 is the closing slide.



Let's Investigate our Place – Steps for Learning 1

Worksheet 1

My view from a school window



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Worksheet 2

My view from a window at my home



Let's Investigate our Place KS1: Keywords Flashcards



Season

Fieldwork

Observation



Season



Fieldwork



Observation

