

Let's Investigate our Place

Steps for Learning 6

Geography KS1



Let's Investigate our Place: Steps for Learning 6

Geography

Key Stage 1

Key Questions

- what is this place like?
- what happens here?
- are people treated fairly?
- who decides and manages the changes?

Learning Outcomes

- to carry out a guided enquiry around a central question
- to plan, collect, analyse and communicate data
- to think about how data can inform choices made

Curriculum Links

Purpose and Aims

- collect, analyse and communicate data
- deepen understanding of interaction between physical and human processes
- 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

- environment
- cultural awareness
- space



Formative Assessment Opportunities

- data collection
- opinion making
- justification

Key Vocabulary

Weather. Sustainable.

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

Resources

- images of areas around the school

Activities

1. Ask the question: 'Where is the best place to play at school?' (outside).

Discuss what might be considered 'best'. It might be related to how quiet a space is, how crowded, how much equipment is available or perhaps the amount of shade, wind, water etc there is. 'Best' could also relate to whether a place is sustainable, dry, muddy, large, natural, etc. Not everyone will agree on best and the discussion should conclude that what is best for one is not necessarily best for all.

Discuss the children's responses, guiding them to think about how they might be able to prove their answers. For example, we could count people in different spaces or use a questionnaire to find out about their favourite place/s to play.

2. Set up a directed enquiry such as, 'your headteacher wants to know where children like playing the most.' Support children to ask and answer subsidiary questions such as:

- What constitutes the 'best' place?
- How can the playground be split up or zoned?
- How might this be measured and recorded on a map?
- How can we find out where people play and which are their favourite spots?
- Does this change with the weather, time of day/year or the age of the children?
- How can we show and communicate our findings?
- Why is this information useful?

These questions could be shared between groups for discussion and fed back to the class.



3. Ask the children to plan and gather data around the primary question, 'where is the best place to play?' They could conduct surveys, take pictures, create tally charts, etc.
4. The children then communicate the data to the headteacher. This might be in the form of graphs, pictures and maps, perhaps divided into zones, and annotated with number of users.
5. Discuss what the headteacher might do with the data? For example, if 75 children think that one area of the playground is the best place to play/most popular but that only accounts for a quarter of the space can/should changes be made? Children can advise their headteacher about any changes that might be beneficial to children and staff and why that might be. For example, happier children are more likely to learn or easier to supervise for teachers.

PowerPoint Presentation

The accompanying PowerPoint presentation has 19 slides, which primarily support Activities 1, 2 and 5.

- Slides 1 and 2 introduce the lesson.
- Slides 3 to 8 support Activity 1: a series of questions to help promote the discussion on the definition of the word 'best'.
- Slides 9 to 16 support Activity 2, the enquiry on behalf of the headteacher. You could change the signature on Slide 16 to be that of your headteacher!
- Slide 17 supports Activity 5, to be used after the children's research and data-collection. It asks the children how they would advise the headteacher if 75% of children think that one area of the playground is the most popular, but that only accounts for 25% of the space. Can/should changes be made?
- Slide 18 ends on the advice that happier children are more likely to learn and better behave.
- Slide 19 is the closing slide.



Let's Investigate our Place KS1: Keywords Flashcards



Weather

Sustainable



Weather



Sustainable

