
MAPMAKING



2nd-4th Grade

Science / Art

50 min. (25 minutes in the classroom, 25 minutes on site)

Learning Objectives:

Students will learn to observe, visually represent, and verbally describe the spatial relationships between objects.

Required Materials:

- ❖ Roll of kraft paper/other large sheet of paper
- ❖ Pens, pencils, and/or markers
- ❖ Optional: clip boards/portable writing surfaces

Directions:

The first part of this lesson takes place in the classroom. Lay a large sheet of paper out on a table, and explain to students that you're going to design a map of the classroom. Ask students to describe the shape of the classroom (square, rectangle) as you draw the outline of the room. Next, ask students to locate where the classroom's door(s) and window(s) should be placed on the map. Students should then be asked to name some of the larger objects in the room (bookshelf, desks). Work with your students to figure out where to place those objects on the map.

The second part of this lesson takes place at Save the Giants Park. Each student should be provided with a blank piece of paper and a pencil. Explain to students that they will be putting their newfound mapmaking skills to work! As a group, give the students the opportunity to observe the space. After a couple of minutes, ask them what the shape of the park is. After you've come to a consensus, have students draw the outline on their own sheet of paper. From there, students should be encouraged to begin filling in the details of the space. You may guide what students should include on the map, or they may be given free rein to make those decisions on their own! At the end of the lesson, you may want to have students volunteer to "show and tell" their maps, explaining what they included on their

maps and why. If preferred, students may also work in pairs or small groups for the on-site portion of this lesson.