



TEACHER PAGE

Lesson: Cardinal Directions
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Arizona Social Studies Standard 3: Geography

Grades 1-3

3SS-Foundations 1 Construct and interpret maps and other geographic tools. Including the use of map elements to organize information about people, places and environments, with emphasis on:

PO 2 identify and using symbols, the compass rose, cardinal directions, and a grid system to locate places of significance on maps and globes

Learning Objectives: The student will be able to:

- Identify and use cardinal directions.
- Locate cities in Arizona from one city to the other by cardinal direction.

Overview:

Navigating our world requires knowledge of cardinal directions. This skill should be started in the early grades for students. This lesson uses an acronym for the direction names as an instructional strategy.

Engage students:

Students will learn to use cardinal directions to navigate a variety of maps.

Follow-up, extensions:

Ask students to make maps of school and home using cardinal directions. Copy an Arizona map. In groups of three students, one student will choose a city. A second student names another city. A third student names the relationship of the first city to the second.

Example:

First student – Nogales

Second student – Tucson

Third student – Tucson is north of Nogales.

Assessment:

Students will be transferring information and knowledge in order to correctly locate Arizona towns and cities in relation to each other using cardinal directions. The outline of the state of Arizona is the backdrop for students to identify Arizona towns and cities, interpret the cardinal directions from a rose compass and choose the correct location of the towns and cities from each other. Many skills are active here.

