

Planning: Using a Compass

Year Group: 2 and 3

Activity	Learning Objectives	Main Teaching Activity	Differentiation	Key Vocabulary and Resources
<p>Using a Compass</p> <p>Relevant to all seasons/months throughout year</p> <p>Approximate time taken – 25 minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify a compass and its parts. • To learn about points on a compass: North/South/East/West • To find North on a compass. • To work out where South, East and West must be. • To begin to understand that the points are fixed and do not move with the observer. • To record findings. • To say where North/South/East and west are on a compass. • To use a compass independently. • To understand that the points are fixed and do not move with the observer. • To record findings accurately. <p style="text-align: center;">Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children can identify positions North, South, East and West on a compass. • Children can find 'North' using a compass. 	<p>For this activity you may wish to use mixed ability groups/partners. Remind children to respect wildlife in the area by not damaging trees or plants.</p> <p>Introduce the compass by looking at the large model. Discuss the parts of the compass – dial pointer (goes to North). Show children how to find North with the compass. Turning the compass until the dial and pointer are together pointing to North. Introduce the four points of the compass (clockwise) North, South, East and West e.g. Naughty Elephants Squirt Water, Never Ever Sunny Weather etc. Each child then uses their own compass to find first North then South (opposite) and then West then East. Children can record what they can see in each direction using an activity sheet.</p>	<p>For this activity you may wish to use mixed ability partners or work in small groups.</p> <p>Higher ability children: children could work independently locating positions on their compass. Introduce positions NE, SE, SW, and NW.</p>	<p>Vocabulary: Direction North South East West</p> <p>Resources: Compasses</p> <p>Recording sheet</p> <p>N, S, E, W markers</p>