

A GPS Scavenger Hunt

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Grade Level	6-8
Duration	45 minutes or 1 class period

Arizona Social Studies Standards
Strand 4: Geography Grade 6 Concept 1: World in Spatial Terms PO 4. Locate physical and human features (e.g., significant waterways, mountain ranges, cities, countries) in the United States and in regions of the world on a map.
Grade 7 Concept 1: World in Spatial Terms PO 4. Locate physical and cultural features (e.g., continents, cities, countries, significant waterways, mountain ranges, climate zones, major water bodies, landforms) throughout the world.
Grade 8 Concept 1: World in Spatial Terms PO 4. Locate physical and cultural features (e.g., continents, cities, countries, bodies of water, landforms, mountain ranges, climate zones) throughout the world.

Other Arizona Standards
Writing Concept 6: Conventions Grade 6 PO 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences : a. nouns b. action/linking verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives e. adverbs f. conjunctions g. prepositions h. interjections
Grade 7 PO 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences : a. nouns b. action/linking verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives e. adverbs f. conjunctions g. prepositions h. interjections
Grade 8 PO 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences : a. nouns b. action/linking verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives e. adverbs f. conjunctions g. prepositions h. interjections

Overview

Students enjoy scavenger hunts. By participating in this familiar activity, students can learn about spatial technology and practice using GPS units. Students will also practice composing simple sentences using adjectives to describe objects.

Purpose

This lesson will use GPS units to locate places in the students' environment. They will also practice using the correct parts of speech in written sentences.

Materials

- Scavenger hunt worksheet - 1 per team
- GPS unit with fresh batteries – 1 for each team
- Clipboards (optional)
- Outside area
- Laminated construction paper card tags for each team to identify the team members (made ahead on different colors – for example, the Red Team, etc.) - (optional)
- Notebook paper
- Back-up batteries

Objectives

Students will:

- Locate human and natural features using GPS coordinates
- Describe the features using 2 adjectives
- Identify how technology can assist us in locating places

Lesson Components

Prerequisite skills: Students should know how to use and read a GPS unit.

Prior Preparation: The teacher will need to identify 10 human and natural features outside by degrees, minutes, and seconds prior to doing this lesson and create a key.

Locations must also be added to the student worksheet. Be sure to travel far enough to get different 2 and 3 number combinations.

For example: N 33° 35' 15.1" W 111° 56' 18.5"

For each team, list the locations in different orders so they don't just follow another team.

1. Introduce activity with a review of GPS units and their uses.
2. Put students into groups of 3 or 4. Hand out group name tags (optional).
3. Pass out the Scavenger Hunt worksheets. Using the worksheet, have the students determine a team name, assign jobs within the groups, record their names on the worksheets, and attach the worksheet to the clipboard.

4. Go outside. Have students begin the scavenger hunt. Give time or other instructions as desired for your situation (approximately 30 minutes).
5. After all locations have been identified, return to classroom.
6. Have each group or student (as desired) write the ten adjective phrases from their chart in ten complete sentences on paper.
7. Collect papers for assessment purposes. End the class with a discussion of how the GPS units helped them locate the human and natural features on the school grounds.

Assessment

The sentences can be assessed for mastery. They should have the correct object and two appropriate adjectives in a complete sentence. 8 out of 10 (80%) would be considered mastery.

Extensions

Have students use the Internet to locate some of the coordinates on Google Earth.

<http://earth.google.com/>

Have students create a map of the 10 human and natural features on the school grounds using the information from their chart. Features should be correctly situated based on the locations on the chart.

Sources

Google Earth <http://earth.google.com/>

GPS Scavenger Hunt

Team Name _____

Team Members _____

Period _____

Your team members will have different jobs. Each of you is responsible for the GPS unit and each other. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE YOU TO LEAVE THE GPS UNIT OR THE MEMBERS OF YOUR GROUP!!!** If you do, you will receive a ZERO for today's activity.

The team jobs are:

1. The tracker with the GPS unit _____
2. The recorder with a pencil _____
3. The trailblazers _____
and _____

You must find the object at the coordinates given below. Then you must describe the object with 2 adjectives before the noun for full credit (Example: sturdy, blue chair). When you have found all 10 objects, return to the room for further directions. You must be considerate of other classrooms, so you will need to be quieter than you normally are outside.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.