Read a Map, Make a Map

| Objective:             | • Students will be able to identify and locate important community places on a map.  
                        | • Students will be able to make a map showing various community locations. |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Topic:                | Maps, Community locations                                                                                                          |
| Structures:           | Prepositions, descriptions of locations                                                                                           |

This packet contains three parts:

- Lesson on maps.
- Closeup maps of your service area with instructions.
- Map of a larger portion of your service area, with instructions.

**Before Class**

- Create a class set of Handout 1 or prepare to display it on a document projector.
- Prepare to display Maps 1, 2 and 3 on a document projector.
- Prepare to display the following on a document projector:
  - Close-up maps of your service area
  - Map of a larger portion of your service area with map instructions

**Lesson Plan**

**Warm Up**

- Ask students about maps. What are they? Who uses them? When do you use them? Where do you use them? Why do you use them?

**Introduction**

- Explain that students will be learning about maps. They will learn how to use maps, how to interpret maps, how to find important locations on a map, and how to make a map of their neighborhood.

**Presentation**

- Distribute Handout 1 or display it on a document projector. Go over the vocabulary list with students. Explain as necessary.
- Continue with Handout 1. “Maps”. Have students read the information or read it together as a class.
Guided Practice

1. Display Map 1 using a document projector. Map of Sometown, USA. Explain that this is a real map of a real town, but we don't know where the community locations really are. We are making up the information for the purpose of learning how to use a map.

2. Describe the locations of the places using vocabulary words and phrases and dialogues such as the following:

   - Where's the __________? The _______ is near the corner of __________ and __________.

   - Where's the __________? It's at the corner of __________ and __________.

   - Is there a _________ around here? Yes, there is. The _______________ is on ______________ between __________ and ______________.

   - There is a _______________ next to the ________________.

   - Is there a ______________ around here? Yes, it's on _______________ across from the ________________

   - The _______________ is _____ blocks from the ________________.

   - The _______________ is on _______________ Street. The nearest cross street is ______________.
Communicative Practice

1. Use a document projector to display Map 2. Map of Anothertown, USA. Again, this is a real map of a real town, but students are going to make up the community locations.

2. Ask students to make up locations for the same places used on Map 1. Ask students to draw squares on the map and label them to identify where various places are. Ask students to show the locations in the map's legend. Ask for volunteers to describe where a place is.

Examples:
- I put the post office at the corner of S. Scott St. and E. Foster Ave.
- I put the DMV on W. Smith St. across from the YMCA.

3. Have students work in pairs to practice dialogues like the ones used with Map 1.

4. Use a document projector to display close-up maps for your service area. Work together as a class to follow the instructions on the maps.

5. Use a document projector to display the map of your service area and map instructions. Work together as a class to follow the instructions.

6. Use a document projector to display Map 3 or create a simple map of your own neighborhood.

7. Ask students to make a map on blank sheets of paper. They should make a map of their neighborhood showing their home and 2 or 3 nearby places.

8. Ask them to label the places and show the meaning of the labels in the map's legend.

9. Ask students to share their maps with the class.

10. Use the Closeup maps and instructions for your service area to practice finding specific locations in your neighborhood.

11. Ensure students are able to find intersections and community locations correctly.

Evaluation

1. Evaluate students’ maps to determine if they understand how to make maps with symbols showing various locations, and with a legend explaining the symbols.

Application

Possible application activities:

1. Ask students to continue to make maps and to pay attention to places in the community.
2. Ask students to add to their maps.
3. Ask students to visit places in their neighborhood.
4. Ask students to take pictures or videos of themselves at neighborhood locations and bring the pictures or videos to class.
5. Ask students to talk to someone at neighborhood locations, write about the conversation and share with the class.
Handout 1

Vocabulary

- Map: picture of an area.
- Map legend: a key to the symbols and color codes of a map.
- Intersection: the junction of two or more streets, highways or pathways.
- Block: the distance from one street to another.
- Cross street: a street that intersects another street.
- Corner: a street or road intersection.
- Next to: beside, alongside, adjacent.
- Across from: facing.
- Between: in the space that separates two things.
- At: in or on a particular place
- Near: close to

Map

- What is a map? A map is a picture of an area of the earth. It is usually created on paper. It shows the features of the area it represents.
- A familiar kind of map is a street map. A street map shows streets and intersections and often shows important places such as schools, hospitals, parks, libraries, post offices and police stations.
- A map usually has a legend. A map's legend is a key to the map's symbols. A map may have symbols on it that show important places. The map's legend shows all the symbols and tells what they mean so that the user of the map will be able to understand them.
- A map is a very useful tool for visitors to a city or town. The ability to read and interpret a map is a very valuable skill for anyone to learn.
Map 1: Sometown, USA

Describe the locations on the map:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10
Map 2: Anothertown, USA

Describe the locations on the map:
1) Draw squares on the map to show various locations.
2) Label the squares with numbers.
3) Write the meaning of the numbers in the legend.
4) Share with your classmates.
Map 3: My Neighborhood, USA

Legend
1. Park
2. Fire Station
3. My House
4. Gas Station
5. DMV

Describe the locations on the map:
1) Make a map of your own neighborhood. Use a blank sheet of paper.
2) Show where your house is and a few places near your house.
3) Share your map with your class.