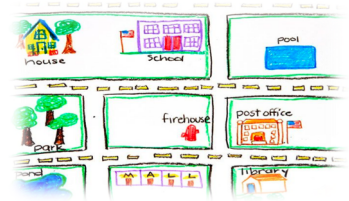




MAPS

Why learn about maps?



- Maps are both useful and fun – you can use them to find your way to the store, the bus stop and they even show us the news where traffic is and what weather to expect!
- Maps help us understand where we are, where we are going and how we are going to get there
- Have exploring your neighborhood and community with your child - using maps to find your way!



Community Map Making



Explore with it...

- Take a *walk* or *drive* around your neighborhood & community
- Notice places that you visit a lot / have never visited
- What street signs do you see?
- Offer a piece of paper & encourage your child to map what they see on the walk/drive
- Draw your own map to see what happens!

* Can be done indoors if it's safer or more convenient*

- Draw and write *street signs* with street names & directions for walkers/drivers
- Compare your map with your child's map from previous activity and note the *similarities* and *differences*
- Look at a *weather* map of US or the world
 - Discuss why some types of weather/temperatures are more common in some areas than others



TALK about it...

Discuss *road trips* or *family trips* that your children, friends or family have gone on

- Did you use a map? What kind of map?
- What kinds of transportation did you use?
- Are there maps for the place you want to go?
- How could you plan a road trip/visit the community using a map?

Play 'Treasure Hunt'

- Take turns to make a map of the house with directions to find a *hidden 'treasure'!*
- You will need *paper, writing utensils, and something to hide!*
- Use different directions for your map – *verbal, written/drawn, number of steps, landmarks*

Questions...



- What is a map?
- What do you use it for?
- Who uses maps?
- Have you seen anyone in your family use a map?
- What would happen if you didn't have a map?
- What kind of maps have you seen before/know about?

