

Map & Compass Synopsis 4th—6th , upper



Hartley
Nature Center

Summary

Learn the basics of navigating with a compass and try your new techniques in the woods. A wide variety of courses and activities ensure that all skill levels can be accommodated.

MN Academic Standards

supported during HNC program. More standards can be supported with pre- and post lesson activities.

Science

5.1.1.1.4 ~ models represent nature
5.4.4.1.1 ~ human interaction with natural systems

Authenticity

Use a map to navigate through a living forest in Hartley Park.

Goals & Objectives

This program will:

- Recognize the basic value/usefulness of maps and compasses
- Emphasize the importance of teamwork to navigate a compass course

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate proper use of compass
- Show accurate pacing (measure of distance) while following a compass bearing

Activities

In the classroom:

- Overview of the basic history of human navigation
- Brainstorm different types of information that maps can display.

In the field:

- Use a maps, compasses, and/or landmarks to reach the destination of a compass course.
- Play Compass Cowboy to learn to use a compass.
- Follow worksheet directions to find several marked points. Each point leads to another point on the course. Reaching each point in the proper order leads the team to a list of animal names. These names allow the HNC educator to check each team's progress.

Bad Weather Alternative

- Divide students into groups and have each make a map of the building.
- Provide them with an indoor compass course worksheet that is formatted similarly to the outdoor course. HNC educators will assist groups as they make their way through the course.
- Once finished, teams can attempt to create their own courses for other teams to complete.