



Navigating the Map

Activity: Navigating the Map

Category: Group Activity

Series: Amazing America (12 Most Amazing American Battles)

Supplies

Paper; pencils, markers, or crayons; a school building or park.

Prep

Read *The 12 Most Amazing American Battles*, or assign it to your class/group to read on their own. You may read the whole book, or just the portion on the Battle of Bunker Hill. Teacher will draw a map of the school (renaming rooms, hallways, and stairwells, etc. after presidents, cities, and parks) or a nearby park (could be based on an existing map; name hills and landmarks). Select a location on the map where the battle will take place. Make a few copies of the map.

Directions

Divide students into small groups. Give each group a map, and then tell the students the name of their current location, and the name of the location where the battle awaits them. Students will use the map to navigate to the place of battle. After the activity, return to the classroom and have students come up with a list of things that they found helpful about using the map to navigate, and things that were challenging about it. Beside each item on the list they come up with, have them explain how that would have helped or hindered the colonial troops when they were looking for Bunker Hill. Beneath the list, ask them to explain how they think their navigation would have been hindered by the dark of night, and how that might have also hindered the colonial troops' navigation?

Evaluation

Was the student able to read the map? Did the student create a thoughtful list of things that were helpful/challenging? Was the student able to translate those experiences to the soldiers' experience 300 years ago? RI 4.6, 4.7

Purpose

To help students learn how to read maps and identify with people who lived generations before them.