

Connecticut

Alliance Created State Giant Traveling Map Lesson

Title: Using the Map to Recognize Letters

Recommended Grades: K-2

Time Needed: 1 lesson

Objectives:

Students will:

- Practice Recognizing letters

Materials:

- Giant CT Map
- Alphabet cards

Rules:

- Shoes are not allowed on the map. Please have students remove shoes before walking on the map.
- No writing utensils on the map.
- No running on the map.

Directions:

1. Gather students to sit 'in Long Island Sound' facing the map. Ask them to look out across the town names to see if they can find a letter they recognize. Have a few students share (For younger children, invite them to crawl on the map to get a better view and promote kinesthetic experience).
2. Tell students that they will be shown an alphabet card, and they will walk around the map until they see that letter. When they find it, they will point to it with their toes.
3. Help and encourage students, compliment them by reading the name of the town to reinforce the geography link.
4. Continue by having students choose a card, focusing as many examples of that letter as possible, finding a capital and a lowercase, etc.

Tips:

- Try to orient the students facing north, they'll have an easier time not transposing letters if they are looking at them right side up!

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Extension opportunities:

- Find a town with a certain number of syllables
- Find a long or short vowel sound
- Find a short letter
- Find a town that ends with...
- Find a town that begins with...
- Find 2 towns that share a letter

Vocabulary:

- Town