

RESOURCE LIBRARY
ACTIVITY : 25 MINS

Location and Place in Your School

Students analyze the location and place of their school using a geographic perspective.

GRADES

3 - 5

SUBJECTS

Geography, Human Geography, Physical Geography

CONTENTS

2 PDFs

OVERVIEW

Students analyze the location and place of their school using a geographic perspective.

For the complete activity with media resources, visit:

<http://www.nationalgeographic.org/activity/location-place-your-school-geographic-perspective/>

DIRECTIONS

1. Have students brainstorm descriptions of your school.

As a class, brainstorm a list of descriptions about your school. Write students' ideas on the board. Make sure the descriptions include the following information:

- the location of the school, such as what it is near and how far most kids travel to get to it
- information about the school itself, such as what its name is and what it looks like

2. Categorize the descriptions by location and place.

Ask students if their responses are about the location of the school or the place. Place an “L” next to descriptions of the location. Place a “P” next to those that describe place.

3. Have students complete the worksheet to apply a geographic perspective to your school.

Divide students into pairs and provide each pair with the worksheet Your School: A Geographic Perspective. Have pairs work together to complete the worksheet.

Informal Assessment

Use the provided rubric for Your School: A Geographic Perspective to assess pairs' completed worksheets.

OBJECTIVES

Subjects & Disciplines

Geography

- [Human Geography](#)
- [Physical Geography](#)

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- identify the difference between location and place as it applies to their school

Teaching Approach

- Learning-for-use

Teaching Methods

- Hands-on learning

Skills Summary

This activity targets the following skills:

- Geographic Skills
 - Acquiring Geographic Information
 - Answering Geographic Questions
 - Organizing Geographic Information

National Standards, Principles, and Practices

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY STANDARDS

- Standard 4:

The physical and human characteristics of places

Preparation

What You'll Need

MATERIALS YOU PROVIDE

- Pencils
- Pens

PHYSICAL SPACE

- Classroom

GROUPING

- Large-group instruction

BACKGROUND & VOCABULARY

Background Information

A geographic perspective is a way of looking at the world. Location helps you answer *where*. Place helps you answer *what* or *who*. You can use a geographic perspective to learn more about your school.

Prior Knowledge

["understanding location versus place"]

Recommended Prior Activities

- [Location and Place: A Geographic Perspective](#)
- [Location and Place in Your Classroom](#)

Vocabulary

Term	Part of Speech	Definition
geographic perspective	<i>noun</i>	a way to understand a topic or area using spatial features and relationships.
location	<i>noun</i>	position of a particular point on the surface of the Earth.
place	<i>noun</i>	area having unique physical and human characteristics.

For Further Exploration

Maps

- [National Geographic Education: Community Maps](#)

