

Latitude / Longitude



Objective

To reinforce children's understanding of latitude / longitude.



Equipment

- 14 tall cones.
- Labels for cones (see Activity Sheet)
- Small, coloured cones (6 different colours)
- Latitude / longitude cards, each with 6 different references on them, using co-ordinates from the grid – e.g. 30 degrees north, 90 degrees west; 60 degrees south, 30 degrees east etc. (See Activity Sheet)



Preparation

- Set out two lines of the labelled cones (as shown on the diagram on the Activity Sheet) to represent a large latitude/longitude grid.
- Explain the grid to the children: The base of the grid is south, and the top is north.
- The north/south numbers of the grid represent degrees of latitude. The east/west numbers represent degrees of longitude.
- Explain to the children that they can locate a point on the grid by estimating as accurately as possible where the lines of latitude and longitude would intersect. Demonstrate the location of different co-ordinates on the grid, using the numbers as latitude/longitude co-ordinates.
- Divide the children into teams. Teams are seated at a distance from the grid.
- Each team has 6 small coloured cones (a different colour for each team)
- Each team has a card with six different latitude/longitude co-ordinates on it.



Instructions

- The teacher gives a signal, and the first players look at the first latitude/longitude co-ordinate on their cards. They must run to place one of their team's cones on the correct point on the grid and then run to the back of their team, passing their co-ordinate card on to the next player.
- The next player then looks at the next co-ordinate on their card and runs to place a cone on the correct place on the grid.
- The first team to have correctly placed all their cones on the grid are the winners.
- When all the teams have placed their cones on the grid, the teacher checks the locations of each team's cones with the class to make sure that they are placed according to the latitude/longitude co-ordinates on their cards.



Other information

Children should be introduced to latitude / longitude before playing this game.

