

A mapping activity for your school grounds

The traveling apple – or other fruit or vegetable

(Fans of 'Cabin Pressure' – this one's for you!)

This activity is about understanding how to use maps.

Select a number of items grown in your school garden, a different one for each table group.



Working in groups - the first person in the group goes outside and places their object in clear view but in a place that it wouldn't normally be found eg sitting on a seat or on top of a log. This means that 'The apple is in play'.

The second person goes out with a map of the grounds. They have to take a photograph of the object in location then mark down on their map where they found the it. They then move it to another clearly visible but unusual place for the next person in their group to find and record.

You can either send pupils out individually or the first person is joined by the second until the whole group is working together. By the end of the session the fruit and/or vegetables should have moved around the site and where they have been should be marked on the maps of the school grounds.

On return to the classroom print off the photographs taken of the objects in the different locations and add them to the maps.

Compare the different journeys of the objects moved by the different groups.

Curriculum focus – Geography KS2

Geographical skills and fieldwork.

use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

Resources required

- A selection of pieces of fruit or vegetable grown in your grounds.
- Plans of your school site
- Clip boards, pencils, paper