

Mediascape: exploring personal geographies at KS2 & 3 through virtual fieldwork

Lesson 3 – Developing Literacy of Route Planning

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Key Question

What makes a good description of my route to school?

Learning objectives

Must be able to identify what makes a good instructional text

Should be able to write instructional text for a stranger to follow my route to school effectively

Could be able to highlight ways of improving other students' work (AFL – peer assessment)

Learning outcomes

Students to annotate their maps with detailed instructional text/descriptions of their routes to school.

Resources

Instructions for writing good instructional texts.

Brief activity description

Before they do any writing they need to examine where there are points of significant interest on the route or places where it would be easy for the end user of the instructions to follow. This is where the students could be encouraged to use their digital photos of their journeys by using them as a marker or point of interest along the way. For example Photo 1 could be of home and the accompanying text should be the instructions to get to Photo 2 which could be at the end of the cul-de-sac where they need to turn right. Then on Photo 2 the next set of instructions can be written to get to Photo 3. This can be accomplished as a paper-based activity, using Google Maps, Quikmaps or of course Photo Story. In terms of ease of presenting students' work to the rest of the class, Photo Story will lend itself particularly well to this activity.

Where next (or extension)

It would be good to build in another lesson where students get a chance to share their work and present it while the other peer assess it. Students could be given the success criteria before they start any of the work and then looked at again during the presentations/review.