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Borough Council
... bridging the communities ...



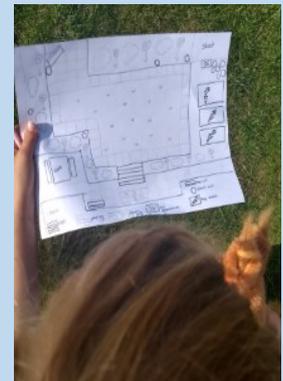
Maps...

Simple map activities

You could do this activity in the garden but any space would work, inside or out. To start with, make a simple map of the garden, including major features – the shed, the benches, bigger plants etc. You could also do this for a room(s) in the house.

I tried this activity with two children so I gave each child some treasure to hide (whatever you fancy, we used soft toys). They had to mark on their map where they had hidden the treasure and gave their map to the other child to find it. We used an x marks the spot!

They then made their own maps and hid the treasure. You may want to start at this point depending on the age and ability of your child. Emma chose to make a map of her bedroom and hid the treasure there.



Extension activities

You can always extend this by looking at different maps and the features of maps and keys. Or take look at some of the many educational links about maps. Try these ones from BBC bitesize and ordnance survey.

[BBC Bitesize - KS2 Maps](#)

[BBC Bitesize - Map Reading](#) - contours, keys and symbols

[Ordnance Survey - Map Zone](#)

Why not give one of the permanent orienteering courses on the commons a go to test your map reading skills. Contact countryside@elmbridge.gov.uk for maps. We run regular orienteering events throughout the year too, so keep an eye out on our countryside events.

For something closer to home try getting your child to map their route to school. What are the main features on the way? Alternatively get them to plan a walk near home using a map. If you don't have a local OS map, there are plenty of mapping sites online that you can print from.



We hope you enjoyed these activities, why not try something different? You can find other countryside activities worksheets at elmbridge.gov.uk/countryside. For further information, please email countryside@elmbridge.gov.uk