

Map and Compass - 2hrs

Knowing how to use a map and compass is essential in wilderness areas, important when navigating our rivers, helpful when taking a trip in a car, and a lot of fun when out for an afternoon hike. This program is designed to give students the skills to use maps, compasses and the combination of the two.

Before you go

Inform students that they will be visiting Carpenter Nature Center to learn how to use a map and compass to find bearings to get you to where you want to go. Learning how to read a map beforehand may be helpful, but is not necessary. Remind students that a great portion of time for this class will be spent outside so they should dress for the weather.

Timeline

- 0:00-0:30 Introduction—Learn why it is important to learn how to use a map and compass and then dive right in to learning how to set bearings on a compass
- 0:30-1:00 Compass practice—Using the skills the students just learned, they will practice setting bearings on compasses to create shapes
- 1:00-1:30 Adding a map—Things get a little trickier when students learn how to use a map to create their own bearings
- 1:30-2:00 Map and compass practice—Students put their skills to the test by dividing up into small groups to use a map and compass to follow an orienteering course

After You Leave

Have students set up orienteering courses using a map of the school, and then have them run through other groups' courses.

Wisconsin Standards

Carpenter Nature Center address and partake in performance standards to help meet content standards. Additional classroom activities may be needed to complete performance standards.

Fourth Grade:

Code	Performance Standard
A.4.2	When faced with a science related problem, decide what evidence, models, or explanations previously studied can be used to better understand what is happening now
C.4.4	Use simple science equipment safely and effectively, including rulers, balances, graduated cylinders, hand lenses, thermometers, and computers to collect data relevant to questions and investigations

Code	Performance Standard
C.4.8	Ask additional questions that might help focus or further an investigation

Fifth and Sixth Grades:

Code	Performance Standard
C.8.11	Raise further questions that still need to be answered



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