



Special Learning Journey: *Creating and Sharing Neighborhood Maps*

Footstep 1: <i>Creating Neighborhood Maps</i>	Students create visual representations of their local area, as seen through their eyes, and share a related story.
Footstep 2: <i>Close Looking and Collaborative Mapping</i>	Students engage in a close looking and shared mapping activity with a friend, family member, or neighbor.

FOOTSTEP 1: CREATING NEIGHBORHOOD MAPS

GET INSPIRED

Welcome to Footstep 1 in Out of Eden Learn! Out of Eden Learn invites you to slow down, share stories, and make connections. Let's begin by finding out about journalist Paul Salopek and his Out of Eden Walk. To get started, please do the following:

- **Listen** to Paul's welcome message to you and other students on YouTube [here](#), which he recorded from Kyrgyzstan in December of 2016. (He set off from Ethiopia in January 2013.)
- **Watch** a [short video](#) in which Paul explains why he is taking a seven-year walk around the world.
- **Read** [Classroom Planet](#), a piece by Paul.
- **Review** the [Dialogue Toolkit](#).

DO AN ACTIVITY: CREATING NEIGHBORHOOD MAPS

Now it's time to make your first post and start some conversations with other members of your walking party!

Begin by writing a few lines about yourself. You might want to think about the following questions:

What might your walking party partners want to know about you?

What are your hobbies or interests?

What are your hopes or plans for the future?

What kinds of things concern you in the world today?

Note: Be sure not to use your real name.

The purpose of this activity is for you to think about your own relationship to a place. It is also a chance for you to share more about yourself!

- Sketch a map of your neighborhood or local area, as you see it through your eyes. This map does not have to be “accurate” or similar to other maps that exist. You can draw this map on paper and then scan it or photograph it to upload to the site. Or, you can draw it electronically – for example, through [Doodle Buddy](#) or [PaintBox](#). You could also make your map using 3D materials such as cardboard.
- Write a true story to go with your map. Your story could involve:
 - The whole map or one special place that is featured on your map
 - A memory or something that happened to you when you were younger in one of the places on your map
 - A typical day in your life that features places marked on your map
 - A story about your neighborhood that you have heard from someone else – it could be a story that happened before you were born
 - How your neighborhood has changed over time

Please note that for all activities we recommend that you save your work somewhere else before uploading it to our website: if there is a connectivity issue, the work you have typed directly into our website may be lost.

INTERACT WITH YOUR WALKING PARTNERS

Now it's time to explore other people's maps and stories!

- **Read** at least 4 posts from other people in your walking party.
- **Choose** *one* person who is not from your class or program.
- **Look** at that person's neighborhood map post slowly and carefully. What is interesting or thought provoking about the map and its story? What catches your eye and makes you want to learn more?
- **Write** a comment using the following dialogue tools:
 - **NOTICE:** What stands out to you or catches your eye in this map? What do you notice?

- **APPRECIATE:** Share what you like, value, or find interesting in the map and story. Be specific.
- **PROBE:** Ask questions that might help you understand more about the student's map or the story they are trying to tell. Use these "Creative Question Starters" to help you think of interesting questions:
 - "Tell me more about..."*
 - "I wonder if..."*
 - "Help me understand..."*
- **NAME:** Name the aspects of your identity, experiences, or place you live that are influencing what you noticed, appreciated, or have questions about.
- **Respond:** Return to your own map and to your Setting Off post. Respond to any comments made by your walking partners. Try to keep the conversation going.

FOOTSTEP 2: CLOSE LOOKING AND COLLABORATIVE MAPPING

GET INSPIRED

Welcome to Footstep 2! For this footstep, you will share your map with another person, perhaps someone from another generation. To get started, explore the following:

- **Look** at this map of [Paul's route](#).
- **Explore** 3 different [Milestones](#) from the Out of Eden Walk website.
- **Watch** [Marie's Dictionary](#), which shares the story of the last native speaker of the Wukchumni language. Notice how the video shares the stories and perspectives of different members of Marie's family.

DO AN ACTIVITY: CLOSE LOOKING AND COLLABORATIVE MAPPING

For this activity, you will show your map to someone else in your family and/or community. You can share your map with a friend, a family member, someone from an older generation, a neighbor, a teacher, etc. The purpose of sharing your map is to explore connections between another person and your map/neighborhood. Maybe the person you share with lives in your neighborhood and sees it in similar or different ways to you. Here are your options for how to share your map:

Option 1: Look closely at and annotate your map together

- Look at your map slowly together, using the See, Wonder, Connect routine. Either mark your ideas directly on your map or write them on a separate sheet of paper from your map.
 - **See:** What do you both notice about the map?
 - **Wonder:** What do you wonder about it?
 - **Connect:** What connections does the person you are sharing with make to this map? Can they tell you a story connected to the map or to the places on the map? Mark your map to indicate any connections the person is sharing. You can use markers, pens,

3D materials like cardboard (and glue/tape), stickers, labels—anything you like to demonstrate the connections the person is seeing.

- If the person you choose to share with lives in your neighborhood, ask the person to talk to you about a place or places in the neighborhood that are important to them. If any of these places appear on your map, be sure to mark them.
- If the person does not live in your neighborhood, ask them to share some important places from their *own* neighborhood that they would include if they made their own map. Write a post in which you share the highlights of your conversation with your walking party. Share a photo of your map with any markings or annotations you made as a result of your conversation together.

Option 2: Look closely at your map and make a new collaborative map together

If the person you choose to share with lives in your neighborhood, first ask them to do the following:

- **Connect:** What connections does the person you are sharing with make to this map? Can they tell you a story connected to the map or to the places on the map? Mark your map to indicate any connections the person is sharing. You can use markers, pens, 3D materials like cardboard (and glue/tape), stickers, labels—anything you like to demonstrate the connections the person is seeing.

Once they have shared their connections, try to learn more about how they see the neighborhood through their eyes. You might ask them to share some of the things you considered in Footstep 1 when making your own map (be sure to capture their ideas by taking notes and/or marking your map!):

- A memory or something that happened to them when they were younger in one of the places in the neighborhood
- A typical day in their life
- A story about the neighborhood that they heard from someone else – it could be a story that happened before they were born
- How the neighborhood has changed over time

Once you have collected some information on how they see the neighborhood, now you are ready to make your collaborative map. A collaborative map is when one or more people make a map together to represent a place that is meaningful to them. With the person you spoke to, make a new map of your neighborhood, using the information and places on your map along with the new ideas and important places/stories you heard about from them. You can draw a map, use 3D materials, or make a digital map. Share a photo of your new collaborative map to the platform along with any relevant notes you took from your conversations with your fellow mapmaker.

INTERACT WITH YOUR WALKING PARTNERS

Now it's time to find out about how your walking partners shared their maps and what they learned. You are welcome to choose how you want to use our Dialogue Toolkit – feel free to be creative!

- **Choose two** posts to look at and respond to.
- **Write:** Choose a dialogue tool to respond thoughtfully to these posts.

- **SNIP:** Cut and paste a phrase or sentence from the post into your comment. Then, use another dialogue tool (such as Probe or Appreciate) to comment on it.
- **PROBE:** Ask a question about the phrase you snipped.
- **APPRECIATE:** Share what you like, value, or find interesting.
- **Respond:** Return to your own posts. Respond to anyone who left comments or questions for you. Try to keep the conversation going or join in other conversations in your walking party.

Out of Eden Learn thanks educator Mike McPharlin for collaborating with the OOEL team on developing this curriculum.



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