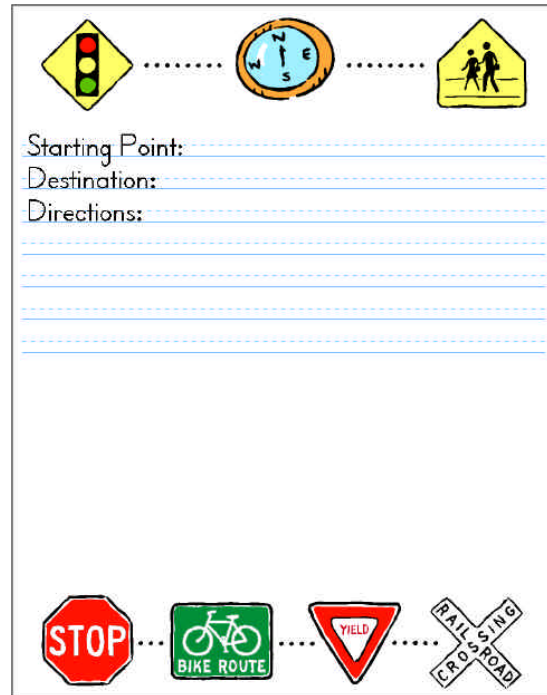


Following Directions

Goals

- To correctly use directional words such as right, left, north, south, east and west
- To write a logical sequence of directions
- To follow directions



The template is a rectangular box containing various elements for a directions activity. At the top, there is a row of three icons: a yellow diamond-shaped traffic light, a circular compass rose with N, S, E, and W, and a yellow pentagon-shaped pedestrian crossing sign. Below these icons are three horizontal lines for writing, labeled 'Starting Point:', 'Destination:', and 'Directions:'. At the bottom of the box, there is a row of four icons: a red octagonal stop sign, a green square bike route sign, a red triangular yield sign, and a white X-shaped railroad crossing sign.

Overview: Students write a logical sequence of directions, draw a map illustrating the directions, and then exchange papers and follow each other's directions by either walking the route or using a map.

Materials

- Copies of "Following Directions" template
- Maps of school building, school grounds or neighborhood
- Optional: Compasses

Directions

1. Identify several starting points and final destinations around the school or neighborhood and let students choose.
2. Give students copies of the "Following Directions" template. Ask them to fill in starting point and final destination, and then write sequential directions to get from one place to the other. At the bottom of the page, have them draw a map illustrating their route. Encourage students to refer to school or neighborhood maps.
3. Ask students to exchange papers with a partner and follow each other's directions, referring to maps when necessary. Then have students conference with their partners and tell if they were able to follow each other's directions. If not, why? Ask students to edit their directions to correct and clarify.

Stationery Studio Extension

- Let students choose a *Stationery Studio* border related to a place they might visit – for example, fire station, amusement park, campground, farm, zoo, or beach – and then write sequential directions for getting there from home or school.