



Map Skills and Geocaching (Hi-tech orienteering)

Based in the grounds of the visitor centre, pupils work in pairs and use maps and handheld GPS units to locate hidden boxes (geocaches). The geocaches contain questions relating to the moorland environment. Following the outdoor session we return to the classroom for a short plenary. Pupils insert their answers from the caches into individual pictorial summary sheets about moorland and how it is managed. Information about the fast growing and international sport of geocaching is provided and if possible we will identify geocaches located around your school.



Age Range: KS3
Duration: about 1 ½ hours
Location: The Moors National Park Centre

Main Curriculum Links:

Geography: geographical skills and fieldwork - using maps and GPS technology in the field;
Physical Education: take part in outdoor activities which present intellectual challenges / team working

Key Learning Objectives Pupils should learn...	Learning Outcomes
<p><i>Geography</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to use a map to navigate to specific locations; ● to use a GPS unit for navigation ● about the characteristics of a moorland environment and how it is managed 	<p>All pupils will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● recognise a variety of features on the map and in the landscape; ● use a GPS unit to navigate to specific locations; ● describe some characteristics of a moorland ecosystem and ways in which it is used by people
<p><i>Physical Education</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● skills for orienteering 	<p>Most pupils will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● explain how a GPS unit uses satellites to work; ● describe how physical and human processes interact to produce the moorland landscape;
<p><i>Other skills involved</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● team working ● problem solving 	<p>Some pupils will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● compare GPS units to other methods of navigation; ● mark the locations of some landscape features on a base map;

Assessment for Learning

We assess learning using a variety of techniques appropriate to the activity such as: questioning, questioning games, observing how well pupils are performing tasks, checking results, quizzes and feedback forms.

Opportunities for Extending Learning Before and After this Activity

Geocaching is a fast growing, international, outdoor activity which requires the use of a smartphone or GPS unit. Visit www.geocaching.com/ * to find out more and discover the locations of caches all over Britain. There will be some close to your school. Pupils could put together their own cache, decide where to hide it and then upload details of it onto the geocaching website for others to find.

The Ordnance Survey provides educational resources for schools including access to OS maps and downloadable activities and worksheets to develop pupil's geographical skills at: www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk *

The British Schools Orienteering Association www.bsoa.org/ * offers support, information and advice about setting up orienteering activities in schools including school maps, equipment, awards, competitions for pupils and training opportunities for teachers.

*Please note that this is an external website for which the National Park Authority has no responsibility.