

Classroom based activities

Please note: the accompanying teacher resource PDF contains all the relevant worksheets and teacher notes mentioned in the following activities.

Activity idea: [Helpful Hints - what I need](#)

Resource needed: [Helpful Hints](#)

Teacher resource

The helpful hints worksheet is a guide that encourages children to think about what items they might need to pack into their bag before they begin their journey. Underneath each photo there is a space for the children to give a clear reason why they should plan to take the given item with them for their journey.

Activity idea: [Know your area](#)

Resource needed: [Know your area](#)

Teacher resource

Before children begin to think about planning a journey it is useful for them to know where their house is located in reference to school, the borough and in London as a whole. Use a local map to begin to give children an understanding of where they would begin their journey from. Begin to discuss what transport links are located within walking distance from the children's home.

Ask the children to think about what information they would need to know if they got lost whilst making a journey. Use the worksheet provided to record their thoughts and ideas.

Activity idea: [Where am I](#)

Resource needed: [Show me cards](#)

Teacher resources

This is a simple activity that can be played individually, in pairs or as a table group. It can be played in its entirety or as a quick starter or ender to a lesson.

You will need:

Paper Tube map - one between two (laminated if you wish to keep them)

Felt tip pens/white board markers

Show me cards

The children will answer your key questions by holding up one or more of the 'Show me cards.' They can use felt tip pens/white board markers to highlight the zones, lines and key stations as or before you ask questions to support their learning.

You can use the sample questions provided in the 'Show me' Teacher resource however you can invent your own if you want them to be locality based.

Activity idea: [Floor Grid reference game](#)

This activity will allow the children to begin to learn how to use the index of a tube map. They can apply this learning when using any of the other forms of maps available on the TfL website.

In a large space create a large 9X6 Floor Grid using masking tape and clearly label the columns (1-9) and rows (A-F). Divide the class

Classroom based activities

into small groups. Tell the children that they will answer key questions by standing in the grid reference they think is the answer to the question. Ask the children to answer key questions by 'voting with their feet' by nominating someone in their team to stand in the correct grid reference. You will need to ensure you have a Tube map per team - enlarging it on the photocopy might prove to be useful.

Here are some example questions but you might want to make up some of your own!

- Stand in a grid reference where the Northern line passes through (only one person per team per square)
A4, A5, B4, B5, C5, C6, D5, D6, E5, F4, F5
- Stand in the grid reference where Acton Town is located D2
- Stand in the grid reference where New Cross is located F7
- Which grid reference is Liverpool Street located in? C6
- Stand in a grid reference that has an interchange station in it
A1, A3, A8, B1, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7, B9, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8, C9, D2, D3, D4, D5, D6, D7, D8, D9, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F4, F5, F7
- Stand where a DLR station is located (note that it is East London)
D6, D7, D8, D9, E8, F7
- Stand on a grid reference of a station in Zone 6 A1, A2, A8, B9, E1,

You could also expand into directions by navigating a chosen person to travel from one grid reference to another.

*Please note that the index lists stations firstly by letter and then by number. Conventionally you will be teaching children to find grid references by travelling 'along the x axis and then up the y axis.' In this case you will need to inform the children to travel 'up the y axis and then along the x axis!'

Activity idea: String fun

You can also plot an Underground Line on the floor grid by using children as stations and pass coloured string through their hands to represent the route. This is a great visual way to introduce memory skills. You could ask the class to remember a child as a certain station and set timed challenges by asking the class to remember all the stations on a certain line using the children as visual prompts. You could have teams of children working together to create different lines using different coloured strings - the interchange stations would hold more than one length of string giving a strong visual image of where lines connect.

Activity idea: Collage work

You could translate this physical lesson into an art based activity where the whole or a section of the tube map or bus spider diagram is rebuilt during an art session.

Classroom based activities

Class display - You could make the map into a class display by asking each child to focus on one section of the grid reference. They rebuild this square in the form of a small collage. These sections are then displayed together in a whole class display.

Individual display- The children could use a view finder to locate an interesting section of the map that they would like to represent in a large collage form. Try using plasticine and covering it with PVA glue to ensure it dries solid!

Activity idea: **Bus map**

Resource needed: **Bus map**

Teacher resource

This activity aims to provide children with an understanding of a Spider Bus Map. It focuses on how to use the index, where and how to locate the right bus stop and helps to develop an understanding of key symbols by asking key questions.

Activity idea: **Tram map**

Resource needed: **Tram map**

Teacher resource

This activity uses a Tramlink map to help children plan journeys to key destinations. The children need to locate the destinations and then decide which the nearest and easiest Tramlink station is.

Activity idea: **River map**

Resource needed: **River map**

Teacher resource

This activity asks children to plan a fictional journey from Westminster to Greenwich using the river boat services. It incorporates a multimodal journey by asking children to plot a sensible walking route around the tourist attractions of Greenwich, finishing with a quick ride on the DLR. It focuses on simple map work skills by locating key destinations and stops.