

Geography Week 5

WALT: write an explanation text to explain how to use a compass.

Your Task:

Using your plan from last week, you are going to be writing an explanation text to explain how to use a compass. In your explanation text you should include:

- Title
- Subheadings
- Introduction
- Time connectives (in the "how do you use a compass?" paragraph)
- Technical vocabulary (for example: magnetic needle, direction of travel arrow)

Once you have completed your explanation text, ask someone to peer assess your work. By the time they have finished reading your explanation text they should know what a compass is and how to use one.

Here is my example of an explanation text that you can use to help you:

Compass

The following text will explain everything you need to know about compasses.

What is a compass used for?

A compass is a tool for finding direction. A simple compass is a magnetic needle mounted on a pivot, or short pin. The needle, which can spin freely, always points north. As this a tool for navigation, people who hike and like to explore might use a compass to help them.

How do you use a compass?

To use a compass, you need to follow these steps:

- First, point the direction of travel arrow away from yourself and hold the compass flat in your hand.
- Next, turn the compass housing with degree dial to the direction that you want to go in so that it is lined up with the direction of travel arrow.
- Then, turn with the compass so that the magnetic needle is in line with the orienting arrow.
- Finally, you are now facing the direction that you want to go in and can begin walking in that direction.

What are the different parts of a compass?

The different parts of a compass include: baseplate, direction of travel arrow, magnetic needle, compass housing with degree dial, orienting lines, orienting arrow and the index line. The baseplate is what the compass sits on and it has the direction of travel arrow labelled on it which shows you the direction that you want to travel along. The magnetic needle sits within the compass housing and it always points north. The orienting arrow is fixed on the compass housing and is aligned north.

Compass

Introduction

What is a compass used for?

How do you use a compass?

What are the different parts of a compass?

