

Map Making

Eagles Nest Directions Teachers Notes

This lesson demonstrates how not to make a map. Unfortunately, we all have experienced someone giving us instructions similar to this script.

Select three students to do the role play. Terry can be male or female. Give them a day or two to become familiar with the script. On the day of the “performance” distribute copies of page 06-05, Characteristics of a usable map, to the class. Remind the students that they have probably seen this list previously. After giving the class a minute or two to review the page, ask which characteristic they believe are the most important. After a short discussion, introduce the world famous acting trio.

“The scene is at the mall. Terry, a new camper, happens upon Henry and Cherise, an older couple and long time campers. This is Terry, this is Cherise, and of course, this is Henry. Let the show begin”

After the presentation, ask if anyone could find their way to Eagles Nest? What got in the way of people who could not find their way? Ask “Henry,” using his script, to give a clear and concise set of instructions. Ask the class to evaluate his instructions.

Ask if they are familiar with anyone who paints a verbal map in this manner done by Cherise and Henry? Ask the students to evaluate how they themselves give instructions or verbal maps. Can they do better?

Conclusion: Make sure your maps or instructions contain all the information needed by your audience, but do not include extraneous or confusing information.