MYSTERY MAPPER

Draw a map, hide a treasure, and see if a buddy can find it!

DETAILS

- **Age**: 2nd – 6th grade (but could be adapted for any age)
- **Time**: 20 – 50 minutes
- **Materials**: paper, writing utensils, object to hide
  - Optional: clipboard, camera

OBJECTIVES

- OBSERVE and LOOK CLOSELY at your surroundings
- PRACTICE using spacial awareness and thinking
- INTERPRET others' instructions and clues

ACTIVITY STEPS

DRAW YOUR MAP

Choose a relatively small and defined space indoors or outdoors – a specific room, the whole house, a yard, a local park.

Place yourself in the middle of the area and look around.

- What items do you notice right away?
- How far away can you easily see? Are there any important boundaries like walls, a fence or a road?

These observations will help you choose the edges of your map and some of your first landmarks.

Use symbols to draw these landmarks on your map. Put them in the place on your page that matches where you see them in real life.

- No need to put every detail of the place on your map. Just choose enough so someone else can tell how the map matches real life.
- Add labels, create a key, or even mark which direction is North.

MAKE YOUR MYSTERY!

Hide an object of your choosing somewhere in the area you have drawn in your map.

Place a symbol on your map showing the location of the hidden object.

Hand over your map to a buddy to see if they can follow your map to the hidden object!

SHOW US YOUR MYSTERY MAPS!

Proud of your mystery map? Share it with us by posting it to Facebook with #BOLCAActivityToTry!