

LESSON 8: GEOCACHING FIELD TRIP

Grade-Level Outcomes

Primary Outcome

Outdoor pursuits: Demonstrates correct technique for a variety of skills in 1 self-selected outdoor activity. (S1.M22.7)

Embedded Outcome

Outdoor pursuits: Implements safe protocols in self-selected outdoor activities. (S2.M13.8)

Lesson Objectives

The learner will:

- apply general knowledge and critical-thinking skills to come up with plans for finding geocaches.
- explore ways in which geocaching can become a part of an active lifestyle.
- encourage others to participate in geocaching while on a field trip.

Equipment and Materials

- GPS trackers or devices with apps
- Camera

Introduction

Today, we will bring everything you've learned in our compass and geocaching module together in one final trip to track and find caches located in our community. It is important that you remember to be on your best behavior and represent both yourself and our school in a positive manner. Remember the rules of geocaching, and always stay with a buddy.

Instructional Task: Off-Site Geocaching

■ PRACTICE TASK

Students must find geocaches by using their geocaching.com login info, or you can set caches for them to find. Students must log the caches that they find and report to you about any they cannot find or any that were damaged or misplaced.

EMBEDDED OUTCOME: S2.M13.8. Remind students of the rules and guidelines that you discussed in previous lessons. Have students practice safe protocols while participating in the off-site geocaching activity.

Extensions

- Have the class place a geocache that will stay at the off-campus site so that they can share the location online and with friends and family.
- Have students take pictures with the caches to display.

Guiding questions for students:

- Do you feel as if you have made an impact by leaving your own class cache on site?
- Can geocaching be a healthy, positive activity?

Student Choices/Differentiation

Teams may work with other teams if they are still struggling with the GPS or with finding caches.

What to Look For

- Students are working together in a safe and positive way.
- They understand and respect the guidelines of geocaching.
- They are using their compasses and GPS correctly.

Instructional Task: Quiz and Reflection Assignment

■ PRACTICE TASK

Have students take the geocaching quiz.

Extension

Have students reflect on the module in writing. Students should address the following:

- Do you think you could teach someone else how to geocache?
- What would be the most difficult part and why?
- Do you think you might geocache in the future with either your family or friends? Why or why not?

Be sure to discuss with students how you will assess them on this assignment.

Student Choices/Differentiation

Have pictures or videos available to reinforce questions and answers.

What to Look For

See quiz and reflection rubric.

Formal and Informal Assessments

- Geocaching true or false quiz
- Reflection assignment

Closure

- Do you think geocaching could be a lifelong activity?
- Who thinks that he or she might geocache in the future?

Remember all the great benefits of geocaching, such as being physically active. I encourage you to try to use either geocaching or compass reading with your family.

Reflection

- Are students prepared and educated enough on geocaching to share it with others?
- What could you do differently the next time you teach this module? Anything to delete or add?
- Is there enough community participation in geocaching to support students' new hobby?
- How can geocaching be publicized in the community to further engage students?

Homework

Share what geocaching is with a parent or friend. Keep practicing geocaching in your free time!

Resources

Geocaching: www.geocaching.com

GEOCACHING QUIZ

Select true or false.

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. Geocaching should always be done alone. | True | False |
| 2. When you find a cache, it is important to hide it in a new spot. | True | False |
| 3. You can hide caches on nature preserves and in national parks. | True | False |
| 4. If you take something out of a cache, you must replace it with something of equal value. | True | False |
| 5. If you can't find a cache, there is nothing you can do. | True | False |
| 6. Geocaching can be done with a free app on your phone. | True | False |
| 7. Caches range in size from very small to very large. | True | False |
| 8. Anyone can geocache. | True | False |
| 9. Waypoint is another name for a set location. | True | False |
| 10. Geocaches should be buried deep in the ground. | True | False |
| 11. GPS locations are always accurate. | True | False |
| 12. You should sign the log of any cache you find. | True | False |

Geocaching Reflection

Do you think you could teach someone else how to geocache? What would be the most difficult part and why? Do you think you might geocache in the future with either your family or friends? Why or why not?

From R.J. Doan, L.C. MacDonald, and S. Chepko, eds., 2017, *Lesson planning for middle school physical education* (Reston, VA: SHAPE America; Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics).

GEOCACHING RUBRIC

	Not present (1)	Emerging (2)	Maturing (3)	Applying (4)
Follows directions and safety rules effectively throughout the lesson				
Understands how to use and implement the GPS				
Can create coordinates/waypoints using the GPS				
Can find an object using the GPS				
Collaborates and supports others during the lesson				

Total student score: _____

From R.J. Doan, L.C. MacDonald, and S. Chepko, eds., 2017, *Lesson planning for middle school physical education* (Reston, VA: SHAPE America; Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics).