

Digimap for Schools

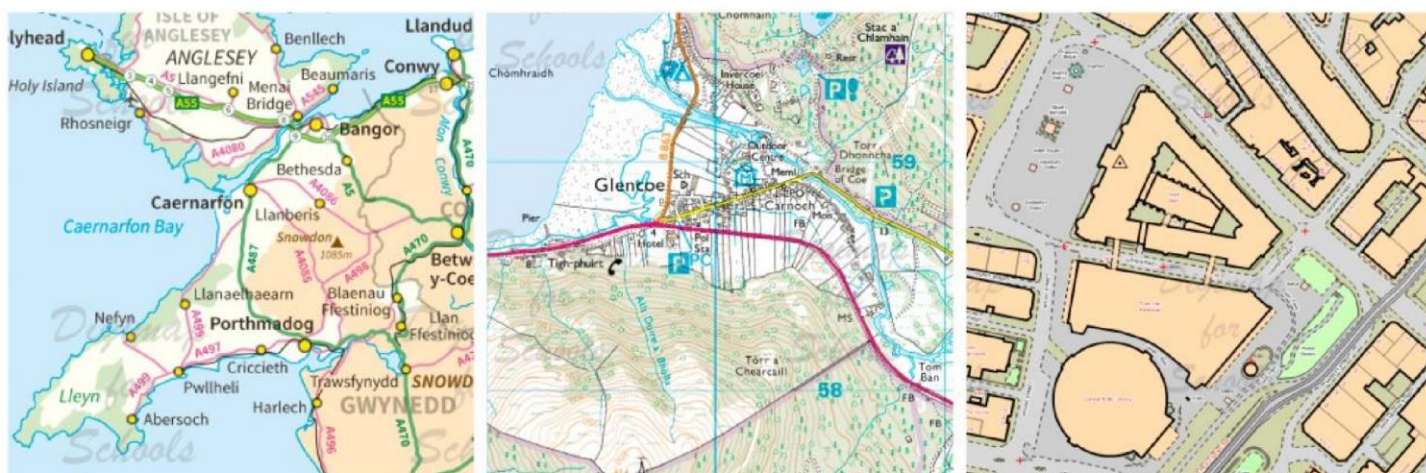
My Top Tourism Trail

Local area enquiry

Paula Owens

Geography teaching resource

Secondary



This is one of a series of teaching resources for use with Digimap for Schools. For more details about this service, visit <http://digimapforschools.edina.ac.uk>

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Digimap for Schools Geography Resources

Title: My Top Tourism Trail

Level	Context	Location
Secondary	Local area enquiry	Your local area

Knowledge	Locating places. Adding information to maps. Making maps at relevant scales to suit context. Identify routes. Measuring distances.
Curriculum links (England)	Use digital/computer mapping to locate and describe features studied.
Curriculum links (Wales)	Use maps, imagery and ICT to find and present locational information. Follow directions, estimate and calculate distances.
Scottish Curriculum for Excellence	Social Studies Outcomes: People, Place and Environment SOC 2-10a, SOC 2-14a

Activity

Identifying favourite places in the locality and mapping them, writing a tourist guide.

Introduction

In this activity, children become the experts as they have to agree between them the top five or ten places in their locality before mapping them and then describing how to get there and why they are worth visiting. Maps can be easily made at different scales to show both where places are in the locality and what they are like.

This activity is ideal for fieldwork. Local places can be evaluated at first hand, and pupils can take their own photographs to add to the leaflets they make.

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Main activity

What are the best places to go to in the neighbourhood and why? Where are they and how do you get there? The task is to identify these places and make a leaflet with maps explaining the answers to these questions.

Discuss favourite places as well as places that ought to be included. Draw up a short list and vote as a class to choose for example, five or ten places. Everyone could locate and map where these places are on a map showing the local area. Then, children could collaborate and work on just one place per group; using the maps to research more information for their leaflet.

The accompanying PowerPoint presentation gives an example of what the finished product for the main activity might look like.

Web links

Young Geographers Go Local

<http://www.geography.org.uk/cpdevents/onlinecpd/younggeographersgolocal/gettingtoknowyourlocalarea/>

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Hand out One

- 1 Open Digimap for Schools. Using the list of agreed places, locate each in turn on the map, adding a marker. This may mean some Internet research to find out the address or grid reference.

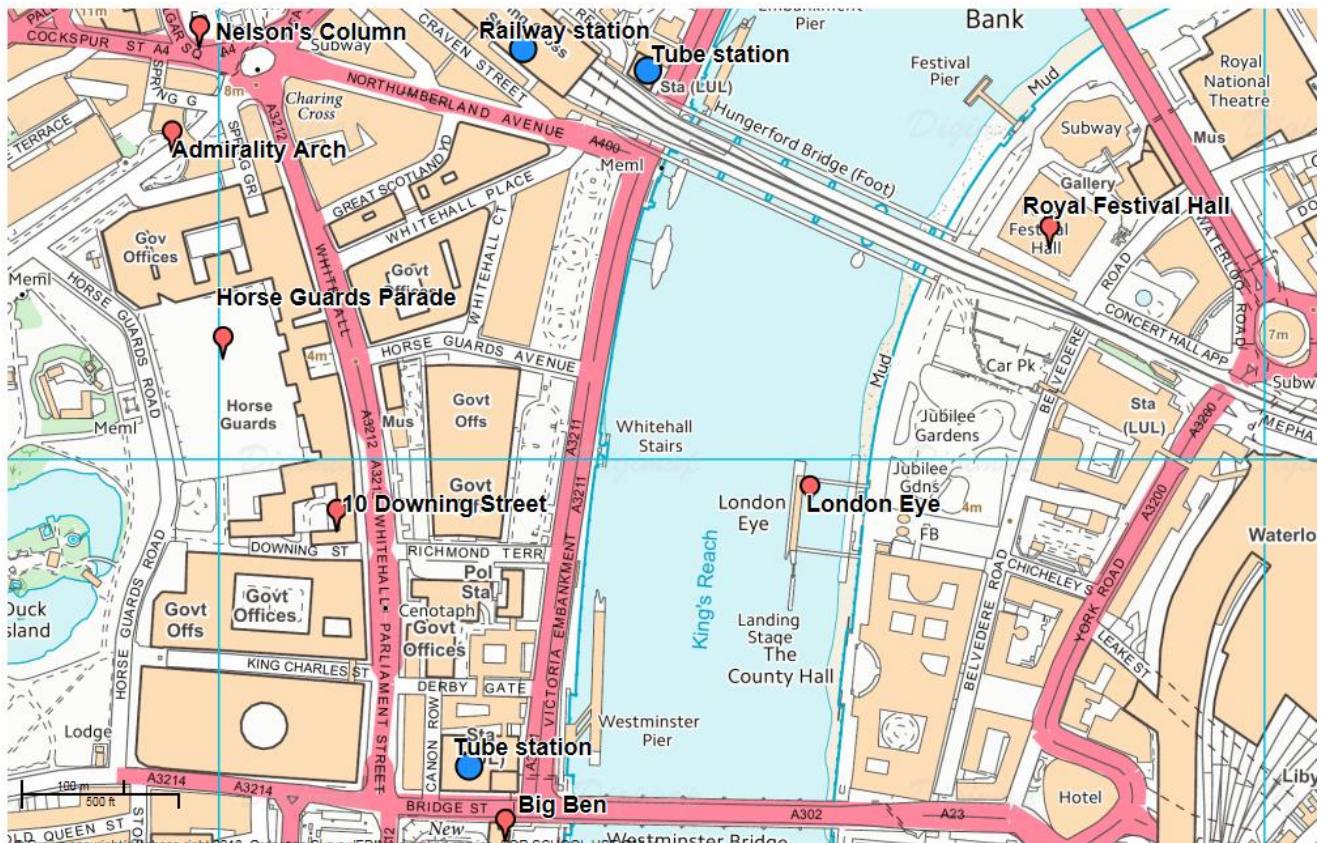
When you locate a place, open the Annotation toolbar and select 'Add Marker' then click on the map. You might decide to use different markers for different kinds of places for example, food outlets, shops, museums, parks and so on, so discuss as a class how you might sort the chosen places and agree a key. You will need to agree markers to show local transport hubs such as the rail station or an airport if you have one nearby.



- 2 Add a label to each place. Select 'Place Label', choosing the smallest text size, then click where you want this to go on the map and add text.
- 3 Research and find the location of your nearest rail station or any other relevant transport hub. Add a marker and label to these as above. Close the Annotation toolbar.
- 4 Choose the view of your map that you think is best. Save your map giving it a title. You can come back later and work on it again if you need to.

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Hand out Two

- 1 (Working in groups) open your map of the saved locations and zoom into the place your group is working on. Or open a new map if the places chosen are quite close together. Discuss as a group what information you might add to your map. For example:
 - How far from the station (airport/ferry) is this place?

- 2 Select the Measuring tool on the main toolbar and choose 'Measure distance'. Click on for example, the station and carefully drag the mouse along the road all the way to the place. Add this information to a label saying for example, 'Station 5 km'. This information will also be useful for your written description.

TIP: If the nearest public transport is a long way away then rather than drag the line along every road, use a straight line 'as the crow flies' to find out the distance.

- 3 Decide what other travel information is relevant. Do you need to add a route for walking or travelling by car for example? Use the 'Draw line' tool but choose which 'Line style' and colour is best.
- 4 Print out and compare maps with others in your group. Are they clear? Which is best and why? How could they be improved?
- 5 Use your map to help you find out other information that you can use in your writing such as describing where this place is and what other places it is near.

- 6 You could add a photograph or two to your map using the 'Add image' Tool.



- 7 Write a description about this place to go with the map. You could add speech bubbles to the map with information or set it out in a more formal manner. Here are some heading ideas you may want to include:

- Where is (this place)?
- How to get there.
- Why it's worth a visit.
- Best time to go.
- A little bit about this area.
- User reviews (add comments from other class members who have been there).

Put your maps, written information and any additional illustrations altogether in a design of your choosing. See what your finished map looks like in aerial photography.