



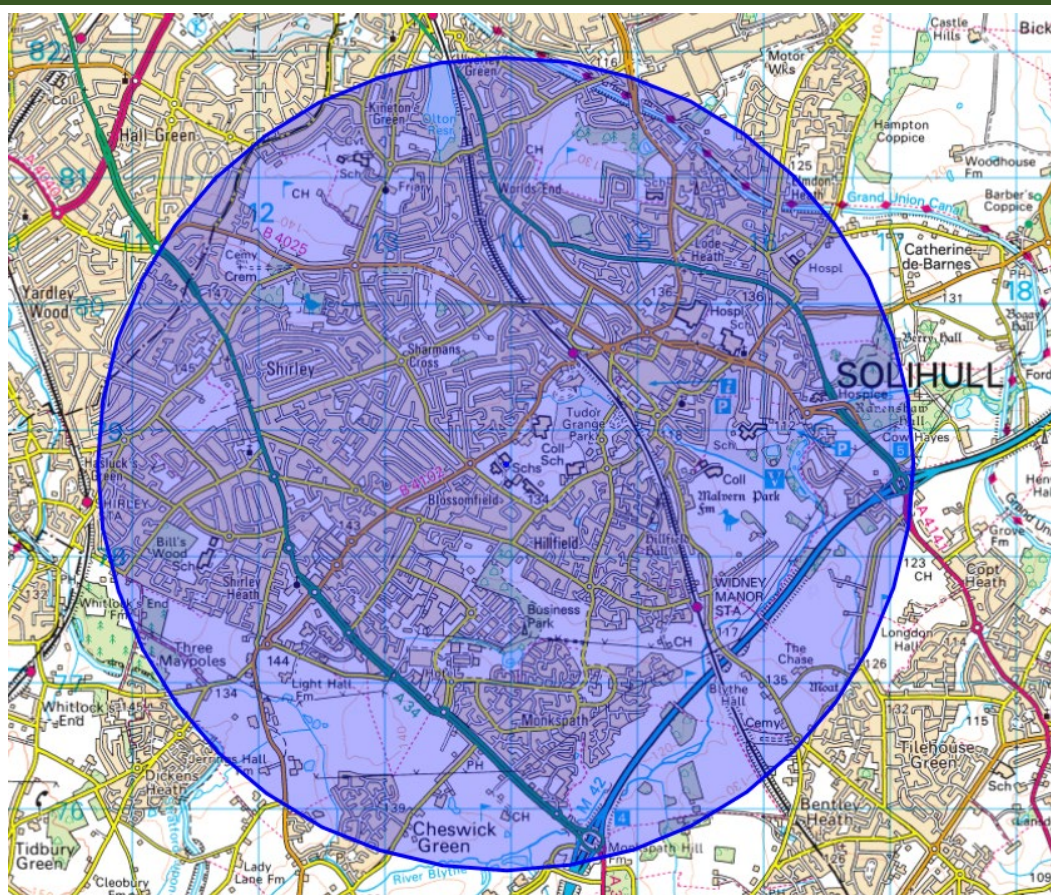
Quick ideas

For using Digimap for Schools

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Geography Teaching Resource

Secondary



Digimap for Schools





12 Quick classroom or homework ideas

Here are some quick ideas for using *Digimap for Schools*.

These are all designed to be used EITHER with an area of mapping shown on a whiteboard and manipulated on screen...

OR using printed maps from *Digimap for Schools* as hand-outs (either when computers are not available or as a homework exercise).

1. What could the area that is shown on your map extract have looked like in the past? Look for clues in place names and the existence of certain symbols. Use the historical maps to check your assumptions.
2. Imagine you are an estate agent looking to market properties in the area. What are its good features and what might the estate agent avoid mentioning to prospective buyers?
3. Some schools now try to ensure students walk at least a mile a day to improve fitness. Find ways to walk a mile starting and ending at your school. Try and make it a circular route. Do the same from your home.
4. Use aerial photography (choose from the Map Selector tool) to find areas that display visually stunning landscapes and/or features.
5. Look at the area within 4 km of your house. Can you identify anything on the map that you didn't realise was there before? Go and visit this place.
6. **Online only.** Using the Search, can we find a place name that has the biggest number of variations or examples across GB? Example high score is Newtown with 11.
7. Provide a map of a single grid square and ask students to use it to inspire some Tweets (140 characters or less) from the people who live there. Alternatively, suggest a Facebook update that the residents might post.
8. Imagine that your area was not in GB, but was in America (or another country of your choice, perhaps one that the students have studied at key stage 2 or 3) – what differences would you notice in the nature of the area that could be shown on the map?





9. How might the area shown in the map extract change over the next 10, 20, 50 or 100 years? Is there evidence of changes that have not been mapped yet?
10. Ask students to imagine they are the teacher and can choose to take the class out for the afternoon to any place within 10 km of the school. Use the point buffer tool (in the Drawing Tools) to show this area as a transparent layer. Where would they take the class and why?
11. Overlay the British National Grid on to a 1:50 000 scale map area showing a city edge. Using the red pin marker on the Add Symbols menu (open the Drawing Tools), ask students to decide which grid squares on a map extract that they would class as urban and mark with a star. Choose another symbol for rural grid squares. Discuss geographical terms for the remaining squares.
12. Relocation: where would students reposition their school within GB if they could? Why are they choosing that place? Mark the suggested school locations in Digimap for Schools. Vote on the suggestion. If used as homework, ask students to annotate the map of that location with their reasons.

These have been adapted from a list of ideas for using Ordnance Survey paper maps originally created by Katherine Hutchinson, Head of Humanities at Chesterton Community College, Cambridge.





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