

WAYFINDING USING EARTH'S NATURAL FEATURES

LESSON 3

Moana dreams of exploring the ocean and is inspired to set sail upon learning of her people's heritage as master navigators. Through the use of wayfinding, Moana is able to connect to the natural world through the earth, stars and water in order to accomplish her goals. Similarly, ancient voyagers relied on the natural world to explore their surroundings and provide their people with the needs to sustain life. However, learning the art of navigation takes time, and it is only through the help of Maui as her mentor that Moana learns the skills and techniques necessary to reach her final destination.

WARM UP

Explain to students that a mentor is someone who is a master in a field of knowledge that is unknown to a person who needs advice or training in that same field. In Disney's "Moana", the character of Maui plays an important role as an effective mentor who uses different techniques to help Moana learn how to navigate the ocean. Inform students that they will become knowledgeable about three techniques to navigate the ocean without the use of modern technology. They will use their experiences and knowledge to mentor visiting students from grades 2-3 similar to Maui's role with Moana.

GET STARTED

Provide students with guidelines for mentoring younger, less experienced students. Lead a discussion that focuses on the following mentoring guidelines. Students may recall which guidelines Maui used when mentoring Moana. Encourage them to take notes and make a list of the guidelines they think will be most helpful:

1. A mentor is a capable guide, a caring advisor and a companion to a younger person who is on a journey of learning and self-discovery.
2. A mentor reveals new ways of seeing and thinking to the less experienced person.
3. A mentor is a positive role model who helps the younger person accomplish what they are trying to do, but does not do it for them.
4. A mentor asks guiding questions and relates solutions to their own experiences or stories.
5. A mentor steers the younger person in the right direction and gives them the tools they need to accomplish their goals without the mentor.

THEME: Navigation

GRADE LEVEL: 2 - 3 & 4 - 6

STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- make a navigation stick chart collage to represent playground pathways
- use a star wheel to locate constellations in different seasons
- mentor students from grades 2-3 in using a playground stick chart and constellation patterns to complete navigation activities

VOCABULARY:

cardinal, current, eddies, gyre, island, map, navigation, star wheel, stick chart, swell, voyage, wayfinding

YOU'LL NEED:

- Suggested Art Supplies: paper, pencils, clipboards, 8.5x10" card stock or tag board, pretzel sticks, glue, scissors, index cards, markers, peel and stick glow in the dark star kits, rulers, black butcher paper and tacks.
- Activity Sheet 1: *Examples of Navigation Stick Charts and Playground Picture Map*
- Activity Sheet 2: *Constellation Hunt*
- Activity Sheet 3: *Constellation Card Sets*

