

GEOGRAPHY

Pirates

Brief summary of activity:

In this puzzle the user is immersed in a piratical adventure. In order to unlock a secret game, the user has to identify various parts of the world with the aid of various geographical facts. This is a task as much about comprehension and observation as it is about geographical knowledge.

Specific Curriculum Area:

Key Stage 3 Geography

Assessment Method:

The teacher could ascertain a pupils success if they manage to unlock the secret game. This would indicate that the pupil has successfully completed the identification of the locations shown on the piratical chart. Pupils are also given a score on the bottom right hand corner to indicate their success.

Differentiation:

The variation in difficulty within this task is very subtle. The difficulty of each location on the chart is itself an indication of difficulty - this is actually shown on a pop-up window when a location is clicked on. When a location is clicked on a pupil does not need to proceed, so if they realise they have chosen a location of medium difficulty in error, they can close that choice and look for a location that is less or more difficult. It is therefore crucially important that pupils read the pop-up windows and understand fully the information that is being presented to them.

Learning Outcomes:

Children will be able to: identify various geographical locations on Earth from factual descriptions; interpret information to identify a location.

Use of Activity in a Lesson:

This activity should be introduced by demonstration because it is important for students to be made aware of the nature of the information they that is being presented to them. They need to know that the pop-up contains information that they will have to interpret. An Interactive Whiteboard would be a useful tool for this.

Pupils could then work on the task individually.

They should also be told that a secret game will be unlocked if they succeed in the activity.

Hints and Tips for Teachers:

1. Ensure pupils are made aware of the importance of the pop-up windows.
2. Ensure pupils know how to find the complexity of a certain geographical region.
3. Tell pupils that a secret game can be unlocked when they complete the main activity.
4. For the secret game pupils should read the instructions carefully before they start the game.

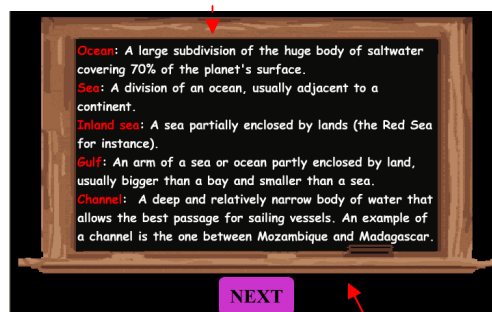
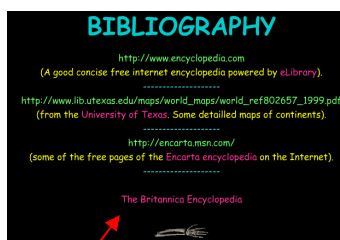
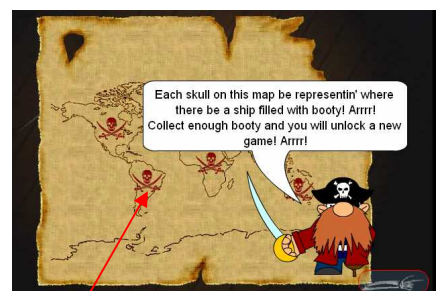
URL:

A magic map tellin the bearer where there be ships a-sailing laden with treasure

Instructions

Clicking here causes pop up to appear here

The scene is set



Click on a skull to pick a region

Further reading

Information about your chosen region

Secret game instructions

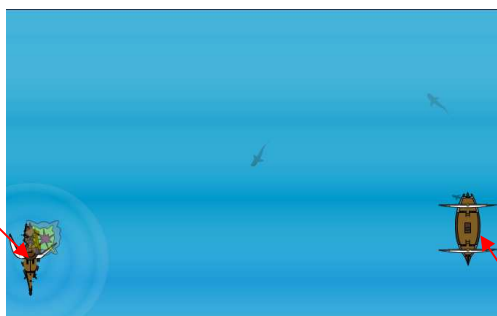
Be ready for battle.
Use the arrow keys on your keyboard

Up ----- To go up.
Down ----- To go down.
Space ----- To fire.
(You start on the left handside of the screen)

Secret game has been opened



User starts here



Enemy

Explanation of answer given

Current score

Troubleshooting:

Pupils need to click on the skull and crossbones to get a pop-up. The pop-up shows the level of difficulty of the currently selected region - pupils can deselect that region and choose another if the level of difficulty is inappropriate.

Other Links:

Bibliography contained within the activity lists online sources of further reading material.