

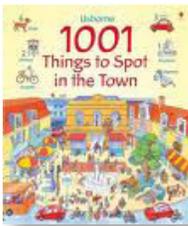
Mapmakers

Let's play and talk together

- ❖ Before you take a walk with your child, talk about where you will be going and how you will find your way. Imagine the route you will be taking and what landmarks you will be looking for.
- ❖ If you are walking in a city or town, point out signs, buildings, stop lights, stores or other points of interest that help you find your way around. If you walk in a park or in the country, look for landmarks such as a special tree, a bridge or signposts along your path.
- ❖ When you return from a walk, help your child make a picture map showing the route that you took.
- ❖ If your child is interested, add arrows and words to the picture map showing where you went and what you saw.



A good read-together book



1001 Things to Spot in the Town
by Anna Milbourne

You will need an interesting place to walk, as well as a large piece of blank paper and some crayons or markers to make a picture map.

This activity develops a sense of direction and orientation in space, and helps children learn how to find their way around by noticing landmarks and details.

Hints for success

- ❖ Encourage your child to decide what to include on the picture map.
- ❖ Help your child remember the landmarks you saw, but don't be concerned if the layout of the picture map does not match your route exactly.



More ideas for Mapmakers

Try this way

- ❖ Take a pencil and paper with you on a walk, and make a list of the places you go and the landmarks that you notice along the way. Use your list to make a picture map when you return home.
- ❖ Draw your child's attention to which way you turn each time you change direction during a walk. If your child seems ready, use the terms "right" and "left" to indicate which way you will go.
- ❖ Help your child plan a route for a walk or a drive you are going to take. Make a list of the places you will go, and follow the route when you go out together.



Early literacy

Help your child make a map of your living space. Walk around together and name each of the spaces, e.g. bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, hallway, etc. Then make a map showing how the rooms in your living space fit together. Help your child put labels on the map.

Book link

Poppy and Pip's Walk by Ian Beck