Teacher’s Notes
In this activity, students work collaboratively to explore sections of old and new maps. By closely examining these documents, students learn to see maps as more than just tools for locating places. This activity prompts students to grapple with the basic elements of the World Around Us (Northern Ireland Primary Curriculum Key Stage 2) and Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (Ireland Primary School Curriculum Years 4-6)

The maps in this resource can be freely modified and reproduced in the classroom only.

Learning Opportunities

- Using maps to understand the physical world and how it has changed over time
- Researching the history and geography of the area
- Developing historical skills to identify chronologies
- Using aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and man-made features
- Exploring technological changes in transportation and in particular how the waterways has changed from a means of transporting goods to a source of recreation
- Using appropriate websites to download further maps and images
- Developing communication skills in interviewing local people and presenting their work to the class
- Producing their own maps of their local area

Irish Primary Schools Curriculum Links

Social, Environmental and Scientific Education
Strands:
- **History** - Local Studies / Life, society, work and culture in the past / Continuity and change over time
- **Geography** - Human environments / Natural environments / Environmental awareness and care

Arts: Strand: Drawing

Northern Ireland Primary Schools Curriculum Links

The World Around Us: History / Geography
Strands:
- Interdependence / Place / Movement and Energy / Change over time

Language and Literacy
- Talking and Listening / Reading / Writing

The Arts_Art and Design
- Engage with observing, investigating, and responding to first hand experiences, memory and imagination
Ireland was first mapped in 1824 when it took over 2,000 people to complete it at the time. Today, computers allow maps to be produced quickly and in digital form.

'Exploring Maps' gives students an opportunity to understand how and why an area changes over time, and to consider that maps can be created for a number of different purposes.

Source 1: 1837-1842 Drawing of Grand Canal Dock Dublin, OSI

Use a magnifying glass to help you!
Source 2: GIS image of Grand Canal Dock Dublin 2020, OSI
Source 3: Aerial photo of Grand Canal Dock Dublin, 2012 :OSI
Mapping Detectives!

Activity 1: Change over time

Examine the 1837 map of the Grand Canal and the Grand Canal today map to compare how the town has changed over time.

1. What is the main difference between both maps?

2. Looking at the old map:
   a. Have any of the street names changed looking at the modern map?
   b. What are the new street names?

3. Name 5 buildings or features on the old map that are missing from the new map?

4. Looking at the Grand Canal today map do you think there are more people living and working in and around the city? How is this shown on the map?
Class Activity No. 2: Create a Map of Your Local Area

Learning Objectives: To enable students to discuss, name and visit places of interest in their local area. This could be the area surrounding the school. Research their area online comparing old maps with modern ones to find out how the area might have changed over time. Check out Map Viewer on www.osi.ie for locations in Ireland and for locations in Northern Ireland https://apps.spatialni.gov.uk/EduSocial/PRONIApplcation/

Method:
- Explain to the class that they are going to create a map of their own area
- Divide the class into pairs or small groups
- On a blank sheet have the pupils draw an outline of the local area
- Create a list of the common buildings and features in the area and agree on symbols to represent these. Ask pupils to write these symbols on the side of their page.
- If possible, go on a field trip to visit some place of interest in the area.
- Take photographs of these places. If you know any older people in the area, ask if you can interview them to see how the area has changed over time i.e. has the buildings or the main street in the town changed in the last generation or has the shops changed name?
- Back in the classroom get the pupils to draw an enlarged map so that the places of interest photos can be included in the correct location on the map. Write descriptions of the areas and research those areas online to include in the final map.
- Complete the map with all areas of interest included. Present your findings to the class.

Materials: Paper & pens, markers, clipboards if possible, camera to record field trip.
Worksheet 1

Name places of interest in your local area

Write the names of as many places of interest as your group can think of in your locality:

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Worksheet 2

Interview a person from the area

Write a list of questions to ask a person who lives nearby and knows about a place of interest in the area. Compile the questions as a group and make sure to get as much information as you can.

Q1. __________________________________________________________

Q2. __________________________________________________________

Q3. __________________________________________________________

Q4. __________________________________________________________

Q5. __________________________________________________________

Q6. __________________________________________________________

EXPLORING MAPS
Worksheet 3
Assessment of maps

Write down any questions you would like to ask the other groups after seeing their maps presented.

Q1. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Q2. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Q3. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Q4. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Q5. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Q6. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________