

HEI Activity: My Local Areas

Children get to explore their local neighborhood by looking at the Street View on a map application.

Materials

Device, e.g. phone or laptop

Google Maps or other map application

Preparations

Make sure you have an internet connection, a screen to use and a map application.

Objectives for children

Explore local surroundings

Explore the concept of locality

Develop a sense of autonomy and agency

Objectives for teachers

Support children's knowledge of local areas

Enhance cultural knowledge

Name important areas in the neighborhood

Activity flow

1. Gather the children around you so that everyone can see the screen.
2. Ask the children which local buildings or famous areas they know about in the neighborhood. Encourage them to explain what the purposes of these places and buildings are.
3. Open the map application on the screen and check where your own location is on the map.
4. Have a look at all the places on the map that children mentioned. Use the Street View to explore these areas and buildings.
5. Decide on one place together with the children that they wish to explore more closely and plan a visit there if possible. You can also try to arrange a virtual tour should it not be possible.

Note

- If the local places/buildings that the children name have websites, you can visit those pages to learn more about them. Share stories or facts about the area's history with the children if you know any.
- You can conduct this activity with the whole group, or in the smaller groups depending on the size of the screen, so everyone can see it clearly. You can also conduct this with an individual child.