

Dog Parks: The Urban Way to Walk Your Dog

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Grade Level	2
Duration	2 class periods

National Standards

GEOGRAPHY Element 1: The World in Spatial Terms

1. How to use maps and other geographic representations, geospatial technologies, and spatial thinking to understand and communicate information

AZ Standards

MATHEMATICS

Measurement and Data

2.MD.D.10 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems using information presented in the graph.

Arizona Social Science Standards

GEOGRAPHY

The use of geographic representations and tools help individuals understand their world.

2.G1.1 Use and construct maps, graphs, and other geographic representations of familiar and unfamiliar places in the world; and locate physical and human features.
2.G1.2 Use maps, globes, and other simple geographic models to identify and explain cultural and environmental characteristics of places in the world based on stories shared.

Overview

Dog Parks are becoming very popular in an urban setting. Dogs need exercise and many owners do not have the space to allow their pet the freedom to run. As a result, dog parks have been developed to provide a safe environment for dogs to socialize and exercise while being supervised by their owners. In addition, such parks benefit the overall community by providing a location for human-environmental interaction.

Purpose

In this lesson, students will learn about urban dog parks, as well as take an informal survey about how they exercise their dogs. They will practice their mapping and graphing skills.

Key Vocabulary

canine: Latin word for dog

double: two

rural: in the country

urban: in the city

Materials

- Vocabulary Cards

- Dog Parks: Phoenix Pets (3.50 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhFFE4-CNFc>
- What is a Dog Park? reading
- Urban Dog Park Map
- Student Survey Checklist
- Student Survey
- What Does the Dog Say?
- Student Activity and Answer Key
- Dog Park Student Assessment and Answer Key
- Dog Park Map Scoring Guide
- For Teacher Information Only: Dog Park Rules for Glendale and Phoenix Dog Parks
- PowerPoint presentation Urban Dog Parks
- Paper and colored markers for maps
- Optional: dog collar, dog leash, dog toys, magazines with pictures of dogs

Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Explain what an urban dog park is.
2. Use graphing skills.
3. Use mapping skills.
4. Collect, record, and analyze data.

Procedures

Note: Included is a file of Dog Park Rules from 2 different dog parks for teacher information only.

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Math Prerequisite: Students should have experience with bar graphs.

Geography Prerequisites: Students should know cardinal directions: N, E, S, and W. They should know the basic elements to a map: Title, Date, Orientation, Legend, and Symbols. A lesson that will teach these elements can be found at: <https://geoalliance.asu.edu/toads>

SESSION ONE

1. Begin the lesson by asking students to raise their hands if they own a dog. If not, do they have a friend, relative, or neighbor that owns a dog? Owning a dog requires "responsibility" to take care of the pet. This includes exercise. How do they exercise their dog? In their front or back yard? Walk around the block? Walk to a nearby park? If they do not own a dog, do they see other dog owners exercising their dogs? Do they use a dog leash? In an urban setting, there are "usually" leash laws. (Note: Teacher may bring in a dog leash/collar to show students what these items are.)
2. Project and discuss the vocabulary cards. Explain that in this lesson they are going to learn about an urban dog park. Show the YouTube video Dog Parks: Phoenix Pets <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhFFE4-CNFc> (3.50 min). Note: the video has 2 segments. Just show segment 1.
3. Read aloud What is a Dog Park?
4. Project the Urban Dog Park Map and review the key items of a map: Title, Compass Rose, and Key. Ask students to find the following items in the dog park map. (The following answers do not include the pictures in the key.): How many:
 - trees ? 5
 - benches? 5 (one inside gated area)
 - trash cans? 5 (one inside gated area)
 - exercise course items? 4
 - mutt mitts? 6
 - gates? 2
 - Where do you find water? At water fountain
5. Distribute the Student Survey on How We Exercise Our Dogs. Take a survey of the students on how they exercise their dogs. As students reveal their answers, students should color in one more block of the grid for each answer. Compare the results. (Note: This should be done as a guided activity).

6. Distribute the Student Survey Checklist. Have students summarize the activity by doing the worksheet.

7. End class by projecting What Does the Dog Say? Let students guess how different cultures call a dog's bark in their language.

SESSION TWO

1. Begin the session by showing the Distribute the Student Activity Arizona Dog Parks (Off Leash) and have students answer questions at bottom of page.
3. Distribute Dog Park Student Assessment (pages 1 and 2) and the Have students complete the questions.
3. Distribute blank paper, Dog Park Map Scoring Guide, and art supplies. Have students design their own Dog Park Map. This can be finished as homework.

Assessment

Geography

Use the Dog Map Scoring Guide to grade their dog park maps. Mastery is considered 16 points or higher.

Mathematics

The Student Activity can be graded. Mastery will be considered 5 questions or more correctly answered.

Geography and Mathematics

The Dog Park Student Assessment has 10 questions: 1-5 are geography related and 6-10 are math related. Mastery is considered a score of 80% or higher.

Extensions

Have students think of other specialized parks that are in their area (skateboarding, tennis courts) and then have them think of other activities that might be the topic of a proposed park.

Have students discuss reasons why there has been such an increase in the number of dog parks over the past decade.