

# Maps! Maps! Maps!

## Lesson Plan Standards for Map Classroom

In an era of GPS, maps are still an important learning tool. Maps are used for creating great inquiry questions, analyzing environmental changes over time, and predicting future changes. This virtual classroom has been developed to assist in the teaching of map concepts within the current Illinois Social Studies Standards. This material includes a collection of DeKalb County maps within our collection, as well as links to additional map resources. This classroom can be used at multiple grade levels, in its entirety, or as links added to teachers' virtual classrooms.

### Identified Standards:

SS.G.1.1. Construct and interpret maps and other representations to navigate a familiar place.

SS.G.1.2. Construct and interpret maps and other representations of both familiar and unfamiliar places.

SS.G.1.3. Locate major landforms and bodies of water on a map or other representation.

SS.G.2.4 Analyze how the cultural and environmental characteristics of places in Illinois change over time.

SS.G.2.5 Describe how humans have utilized natural resources in the United States ( Illinois area).

SS.G.1.6-8 Use geographic representations to explain relationships between the locations (places and regions) and changes in their environment

SS.G.1.9-12 Use maps,(created using geospatial and related technologies, if possible), satellite images, and photographs to display and explain the spatial patterns of physical, cultural, political, economic, and environmental characteristics.

### Resources :

Suggested inquiry questions for all maps:

1. What was the purpose for the creation of this map?
2. Who would have used this map and why?
3. What are the similarities and differences from this map and a current map of this area? What possible causes created these changes?
4. Students can identify additional questions they have after viewing these maps.

## Township Map Questions:

Suggested inquiry questions and opportunities for learning.

1. What symbols on these maps are not found on current maps? Why?
2. Identify landforms that can be found on these maps.
3. Locate the churches and schools on these maps. Analyze why they were built at those locations.
4. What was the purpose of the names on these maps? Are any of the names on this map familiar to you and why?
5. Identify the purpose of the numbers on the maps.
6. What could be the possible purpose of recording the number of animals raised in the township?
7. Share additional inquire questions students have identified.

## County and State Maps

Suggested inquiry questions and opportunities for learning.

1. Locate your township on the county map. Identify the unique features found within your township.
2. Count the number of schools and churches in your township. Compare to other townships. What conclusions can you draw from this comparison?
3. What differences exists between the two county maps? What could have caused that change?
4. Locate the Illinois map dated 1817. Describe the settlement patterns on this map.
5. Compare the Illinois map of 1817 to 1845. What similarities and differences exist between the maps? What environmental or governmental changes might have caused these changes?
6. Share additional inquire questions students have identified.

## Sanborn Maps

Suggested inquiry questions and opportunities for learning.

1. What are a variety of ways this map could be used?
2. What places on the map still exist today? Why might some of the places not exist today?
3. Identify a variety of reasons different buildings would have used the materials they did to build their structure?
4. Look around your block. Create a Sanborn map of your block using the Sanborn map key.
5. Sanborn maps were used to determine fire risk of various structures. Evaluate if there is still the same level of fire risk in buildings today as there was in the old Sanborn maps. Explain your reasoning.
6. What other organizations could have created a map for their specific purposes? Explain what that map would have shown.
7. Share additional inquire questions students have identified.

Additional Resources:

Additional maps are available upon request at the DeKalb County History Center.