

# Minnesota Writing Project

## ---Demonstration Lesson---

**Title of lesson:** Prepositions of Place

**Suggested grade/age:** ESL Students, 1st grade through adults, at levels 1-3

**Approximate time needed to complete lesson:** Two 45 minute sessions

**Learning objective(s) and significance of lesson:**

Students need to be able to navigate how to get places in their communities and schools, but also to find items inside stores and shopping centers. Prepositions are explicitly taught in this lesson so students can know the difference between common prepositions such as: up, down, above, below, in, on, across, in front of, behind, between, next to and in back of. Review vocabulary words: left, right and straight.

**Brief summary/outline of lesson:**

This lesson is embedded between our “Shopping” unit and the “Getting Around Town” unit. In the Family Lit program, the units are generally one month long. These two units are during fall, but getting close to winter (October and November).

We will learn new prepositions by hearing them, repeating them, reading them from a PowerPoint presentation and then, acting them out in groups of two or three. Other students have to guess which preposition the “action” represents.

Demonstrations/Assessments:

The last part of the lesson includes pairing up in groups of two or three to write out directions to find objects on grocery store shelves and also to find places on maps. They will be given sentence frames where they only need to fill in the prepositions.

The groups then read their directions to the class, with a picture projected as well, and the class needs to guess which object or place they are trying to help us find. Students must show they can use the prepositions we just learned. Adults take CASAS or TABE tests every 40 hours of class time. Knowing prepositions will help them with basic survival skills, as well as better test-taking ability so they can move up to the next ESL level and work towards their adult diplomas or GEDs.

**Related Resources:**

Smartboard or projector, PowerPoint, *All Star* book 1 (red) and 2 (Blue). Some chapters from the *Ventures* book 1 are helpful to practice what they have learned about locations and prepositions of place. Students should have the slides, the pictures of the shelves, the maps, a word bank with the prepositions and their definitions. They should also have a pen, pencil, highlighter, and notebook.

**Possible extensions or adaptations for different purposes/student needs:**

For more advanced students, they can write more independently and pretend they are “Siri,” writing full sentences and giving directions from one point on a map to another, using left, right, straight, across, next to, behind, in front of, up/down, etc. to demonstrate that they know prepositions as well as how to write them in sentence form, with subject/verb agreement and proper use of nouns and verbs, capitalization, grammar and sentence structure. They could write directions from the school to their house, from their house to the closest grocery store and use a map provided in class.

For additional information, contact:

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