

# Using Maps to Understand How St Andrews Has Changed

Class: Primary 4-5

Subject: Social Studies

Duration: 30mins

## Lesson Focus and Goals:

- Understand the basics of how maps work and why they are useful
- Practice finding familiar places on a map
- Understand that the town of St Andrews has changed over time

## Materials Needed (for class of 30):

- PowerPoint Slides
- Printed A3 modern map of St Andrews x6
- Printed A3 satellite image of St Andrews x6
- Printed A3 1849 map of St Andrews x6
- Printed symbols to stick on map x6
- Blue tack

## CfE Learning Points:

- I can compare aspects of people's daily lives in the past with my own by using historical evidence or the experience of recreating an historical setting. SOC 1-04a
- Through activities in my local area, I have developed my mental map and sense of place. I can create and use maps of the area. SOC 1-14a
- Having explored the landscape of my local area, I can describe the various ways in which the land has been used. SOC 1-13a

## Teacher Notes:

- Start with a discussion on the purpose of maps and how they work. The length of this discussion will depend on the pupils' prior knowledge of maps.
- Once class have a rough understanding of how maps work, move on to the activity (see 'Activity Instructions' below).
- When all groups are finished it will be important to have a whole class post activity discussion. This should enforce the main message to be taken from the activity, that St Andrews has changed over time.
- See 'Background Information' and 'Discussion Questions' below for ideas of what to include in pre/post activity discussion.

## Background Information:

- Modern map of St Andrews on first slide has a 'birds eye view' perspective of the town. This means the map represents what a bird would see if it was flying above.
- The zoomed in satellite image of St Andrews represents this idea clearly as individual buildings such as the West Tower of St Salvator's College on North Street can be seen. This will help pupils to visualise what is meant by a 'bird's eye view', especially if places they may know are pointed out.
- Then, going back to the map, the area that was shown on the zoomed in satellite image is coloured in green, which allows for an explanation that the map is more zoomed out than the photo. Again, it may be helpful to point out known places on this map to prepare the class for the activity.
- Historic map is from 1849. Some parts of this map are cut off, but it still conveys that St Andrews was much smaller in the past and it is easy to understand. There are many features that tell us that St Andrews has changed. For example, there are no buildings on Largo Road and Bell Street.
- According to records, there were only around 4000 people living in St Andrews in 1841, whereas in 2020 there was around 20,000. This means the population of the town is about five times what it was at the time of the map.

## Discussion Questions:

### Pre-Activity

- Does anyone know what we can use maps for? (Planning journeys, finding our way when we are lost, finding important things we might need, eg public toilets)
- Has anyone used a map before? Was it difficult?
- Does anyone know what a 'birds eye view' is?

### Post-Activity

- Could anyone stick everything on both maps?
- Why was it difficult to stick things on the second map?

## Activity Instructions:

- Hand out:
  - Printed A3 modern map of St Andrews x6
  - Printed A3 satellite image of St Andrews x6
  - Printed symbols to stick on map x6
  - Blue tack (so symbols can be reused on the different maps, this works best if maps are laminated)
- Recommended group size: 6 groups of 5 for a class of 30 (this can easily be adapted)
- Using example on slide 4 instruct groups to work together to stick their school and a beach of their choice on the map.
- Then they should help each other to stick down their individual houses and the supermarket where they each do their shopping.
- Once groups are finished the task above, hand them a copy of the A3 1849 map of St Andrews.
- Explain that this map would not be used today but would have been used over 150 years ago.
- Then, instruct groups to complete the same task as before, reusing the same symbols.
- Note: the objective here is not to be able to stick the symbols on correctly but to see that they won't be able to stick all of them on as the town was much smaller in the Victorian era.
- Maps can be complicated, for children of all ages but the main idea is for the class to understand that their local area has changed over time.

(Ignore red dots on map, it is originally from a book titled *History of St Andrews* but the clearest image we could find was from another website and the red dots are not related to this activity)

### For those outside of St Andrews or North East Fife...

- Find maps from your own local area which you can use to complete this activity.

#### For modern maps try:

[OpenStreetMap](#)

#### For satellite images try:

[Google Earth](#)

#### For historic maps try:

[National Library of Scotland - Map Images \(nls.uk\)](#)

