

SCHOOLYARD LEARNING

Schoolyard Time Machine

GRADES: 1-8 PRIMARY/JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE - SOCIAL STUDIES, MATH

LEARNING SKILLS AND WORK HABITS: Classroom Community, Equity & Inclusion, Creating Sense of Place, Indigenous Reconciliation

MATERIALS: None

ACTIVITY:

1. Go outside.
2. Divide the class into 3 groups. Assign each group the following questions, with one group imagining that they are 10 years back in time. The second group imagines themselves 100 years back in time, and the third group imagines themselves 1000 years back in time.
3. Have students attempt to answer the following questions: What grew in this place? What animals lived here or used this land as part of their habitat? Who lived in the area around what is now our school?
4. Students rejoin the main group and describe how they imagine their schoolyard looked and was used at different points in history.

TEACHER PROMPTS:

The intention of this activity is to get students to understand how the land changes over time in terms of biodiversity and human geography. It also opens up discussions about Indigenous treaties and land claims. This activity could also be a jumping off point for math - integers, exponents, multiples of 10.

ACTIVITY OPTIONS:

Any time periods or intervals could be used.

