



Walking Treasure Hunt

GradeLevel: 2-3

Subject: Social Studies

Time Allowance: (30 minutes + homework assignment)

Materials: white or chalkboard, markers/chalk

The Walking Treasure Hunt gives kids an opportunity to recognize all the great things they get to see when they walk. It also helps students become more familiar with their neighborhood and community.

Design a one-page list of items and objects that children can look for on their way to school. You should include some street signs and traffic signals. It's also a good idea to include fun items, and ones that are specific to the neighborhood in which your students live, like a hair salon, a rose bush, a brown dog, or a taqueria. The list can also ask questions like, "where is the bus or el stop closest to your home?" If you don't live in the neighborhood yourself—or even if you do—you can ask your students to help you create the list.

- Distribute the list to the students and designate a completion date.
- Ask students to use the list as they walk to school. They should identify each item and where they found it on their list. They should try to keep track of street names.
- Have a discussion about what they learned from the treasure hunt. Talk about things students saw that weren't on the list (and maybe use them to make a new list for a new hunt).
- Ask students, "What is the difference between being driven to school and walking? When you're in the car, do you notice the same things as when you're walking?"

Sample List

Item	Location
White fence	_____
Stop sign	_____
Gray house	_____
Pink flamingo	_____
Crossing guard	_____
Blue flowers	_____
Bicycle	_____
Stoplight	_____
Spotted dog	_____
White garage	_____
Hamlin Street sign (school location)	_____
School bus	_____
CTA bus or train	_____