



# Classroom Map for the Birds!

## INTRODUCING BIRD'S EYE VIEW AND SYMBOLS



### Materials needed:

- can
- butcher paper or large grid paper
- colored construction paper
- scissors
- tape
- colored markers

5. Model expected behavior, then invite small groups to take turns “flying” around the classroom. Ask students to notice four shapes from above.
6. Work as a class to develop a list of shapes representing elements in the classroom (desks, tables, chairs, shelves, sink, and so forth).

### Directions:

#### Day 2

1. Explain to students that a map shows a real place from above. Have students work together to create a map of the classroom, positioning cut symbol shapes on the butcher paper to suggest the layout of the classroom. Prompt students with questions like “Where are the desks?” “How many tables are there?” “Where is the sink?” Tape the shapes into desired positions.

2. Most maps include a **key**, showing the map symbols that are used to represent larger things in the world.
3. Use markers to develop a key for the classroom map.



### Directions:

#### Day 1

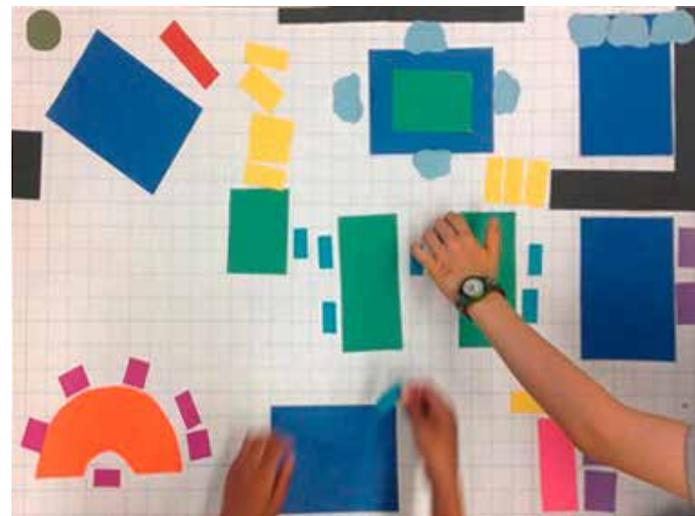
1. Hold a can at the students’ eye level. Ask them to describe the shape.
2. Put the can on the floor and have a volunteer stand looking down at the can. Ask the volunteer to describe the shape now.
3. Explain the concept of point of view. The first shape was a **side view** or **eye level view**; the second shape is a **bird’s eye view**.
4. Explore bird’s eye view by asking students to stand on their chairs to determine how their desks or tables look from above. Have them describe the shape they see. The shape will become a **symbol** for their desk or table.



### Preparation:

#### Day 2

1. Precut butcher paper to general proportion of the classroom.
2. Precut colored construction paper corresponding to list of shapes developed on Day 1 (desks, tables, chairs, shelves, sink, and so forth).



### Follow-up:

1. Read *Water Land: Land and Water Forms Around the World* and have a discussion about bird’s eye view and symbols for the land and water forms shown.