



Read Write Count P3: *Martha Maps it Out* STEM learning activities

STEM learning activities on *Martha Maps it Out* by Leigh Hodgkinson

Age 6-8

CfE First Level

Resource created by Raising Aspirations in Science Education (RAiSE)

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About this resource

This resource was developed by [Raising Aspirations in Science Education \(RAiSE\)](#) and provides links to some suggestions for further STEM learning activities to complement and enhance children's learning from one of the books included in this year's [Primary 3 Read Write Count bag](#). The key themes explored in these activities are space, our solar system, maps and housing.

Learning activities

Activity 1: What is our solar system?

SCN 1-06a

What is the solar system? Find out about the solar system and learn the order of the planets with a song in [this video from BBC Bitesize](#) (1 minute, 16 seconds).

Activity 2: Fruit solar system

SCN 1-06a

Help students grasp the various sizes of planets in our Solar System using mostly fruit with some other items. The class discussion before the activity encourages students to take an educated guess as to which planet each item represents. You can use the [Solar system in a box guide from the Royal Museums Greenwich website](#) for inspiration!

Activity 3: Build a space craft

SCN 1-06a, TCH 1-09a, TCH 1-10a

How would you like to be the chief engineer for an important NASA mission? In this

activity [from NASA's website](#), you get to design the latest and greatest satellite. Your satellite could help study things happening on Earth, take pictures of planets in our solar system, keep an eye on our sun, or even find planets elsewhere in the universe!

Activity 4: Make your own rocket!

SCN 1-07a

Make a rocket propelled by Alka Seltzer is this exciting chemistry experiment [from the Alka Seltzer website](#).

Activity 5: The Moon

SCN 1-06a

Discuss the different shapes of the Moon, use [Explorify's activity](#) to support (log in required).

Activity 6: Lunar phases animation

SCN 1-06a

Investigate the phases of the Moon using this interactive resource [from PBS learning](#).

Activity 7: Sun, Moon and Earth model

SCN 1-06a, TCH 1-09a

Use this [YouTube video from Armagh Observatory & Planetarium](#) (1 minute) to make a model of the Sun, Moon and Earth. This a great way to teach kids that the Earth orbits around the Sun and the Moon orbits around the Earth.

Activity 8: Meet people who observe the Earth

HWB 1-20a, SCN 1-20a

You can play a range of games with [EO Detectives set of cards](#) that give some key

information about 20 people whose jobs are related to or uses Earth observation.
Download the cards on the [EO Detectives website](#).

Activity 9: Explore the animals on earth

SCN 1-02a

Find out more about the animals in the book illustration, [on the WWF web site](#).

Activity 10: What are Maps?

SOC 1-14a

Find out about maps and how to read them with [this guide from BBC Bitesize](#).

Activity 11: Google Maps

SOC 1-07a, SOC 1-14a, TCH 1-01a, TCH 1-02a

Investigate your local area using [Google Maps](#). Draw a map, using the style of the illustration of a city in the book, of the area around the school, home area or another special place.

Activity 12: Sustainability walk

SOC 1-14a, SCN 1-20a

Walk around the local streets around the school and record what the learners can see on their journey by sketching or taking photos. Using this [YouTube video introduction to the Global Goals](#) (5 minutes, 5 seconds) to try to match what the learners discoveries with the goals, e.g. allotments could match with Life on Land or Sustainable Cities and Communities, recycling bins: could match with Responsible Production and Consumption.

Activity 13: Different houses and homes

SOC 1-11a

Not everyone lives in a block of flats, explore the different houses and homes across

the world. Use BBC Bitesize's [Different types of houses and homes guide](#) and [Homes guide](#) for support.

Activity 14: My building

SOC 1-11a

Create a picture or model of a block of flats or a different type of house. Discuss what might be inside. How many rooms? What will be in each room?

Activity 15: Proud to be an architect

HWB 1-20a, SCN 1-20a

Watch the [BBC Teach video](#) (4 minutes, 23 seconds) on to find out the life of an architect.

Activity 16: Make a Guess Who game

MNU 1-20a, MTH 1-21a

Using the "[Map of Me](#)" from [Data Education in Schools](#) to investigate similarities and differences with this activity which helps us to think about data, categorisation and pattern matching.

Activity 17: Map of my thoughts

MTH 1-21a, TCH 1-01a

Create a map of thoughts using the illustration as a model. What is important to you? What makes you unique? What big dreams do you have? Draw on paper or use an online mind mapping tool like Freeform on the iPad.

Further resources

For further Read Write Count resources see our other [STEM learning resources](#), our [P2 teacher pack](#) or [P3 teacher pack](#) which include cross curricular learning activities on the books and resources from each bag.