Perseverance Treasure Map

This project incorporates social studies and the use of a compass to practice perseverance. The task is to use your treasure map to find items that start with every letter in perseverance, documenting where each item was found on their map.

Integrity Sub-Concept(s)
Perseverance, Kindness

Project Timeframe
25-30 minutes

Required Materials
- Items beginning with each letter in PERSEVERANCE
- Blank Classroom Map for each group
- Clue Sheet for each group
- Compass for each group
- Pencils

Step 1:
Create a map of your classroom. Here is a standard template to get your juices flowing. You can also use this website to create one.
http://classroom.4teachers.org

Step 2:
Provide a copy of your classroom map along with directional clues to help your students find the items. This will be very specific to your classroom.

Example: Clue #1: Starting from the teacher’s desk, take 5 paces North, then 3 paces West. Look under the table. You found it! Draw a picture of what you saw and where you found it on the map provided.
Strategically place 1 item for each letter in Perseverance throughout the classroom. Here are some suggestions:

P: paper, picture, pencil, popcorn, plant
E (they need to find 4): egg, elephant, eraser, eel, envelope, eleven, eight
R (they need to find 2): red, rubber band, rose, ruler, etc.
S: stamp, scissors, snake, stapler, six, seven,
V: van, video, violin, vacuum, vest, volcano
A: apple, airplane, ant, ape, apron
N: nest, nine, notebook, noodles, net, needle
C: cat, crayons, calculator, cookies

These items can be physical or pictures. Get creative on how you hide them; tape them under tables, tuck them behind books, etc. Keep a list of what you put out and where you placed it so you can help people as needed and verify if they are honest in their answers when they have completed the activity.

**Step 3:**

Explain the activity. Each group of 3-4 pirates will receive a map of the classroom and a clue sheet. Make sure that each group starts on a different Clue so they aren’t all hunting for the same treasure at the same time. Their mission is to find an item that starts with each of the 12 letters in PERSEVERANCE. Some letters appear 2-4 times. You will need to find a different object for every letter, even if it appears multiple times. When you are all done, you will have 12 different items listed.

The clue sheet will take you to all 12 items. You must use your compass to follow the clues. Explain how to use a compass and what N, S, E, and W stand for. If any of your clues are more complicated and include directions like NNW or SSE, explain that concept as well. Also, explain that paces are medium size steps. You may wish to demonstrate this too.

Persevere until you have found all 12 letters in PERSEVERANCE.

**Step 4:**

Review how perseverance helped each treasure hunting group find their objects. Were certain items more difficult to find than others? How were you able to use perseverance to complete the activity? Did you ever struggle with honesty when you couldn’t find a certain item?

**Extension:**

- Want to take your map skills to the next level? Check out this National Geographic sponsored map tool to have your students create their own maps of your classroom!
  
  [https://www.nationalgeographic.org/activity/mapping-classroom/](https://www.nationalgeographic.org/activity/mapping-classroom/)

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The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SESelect Program and is included in the CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.