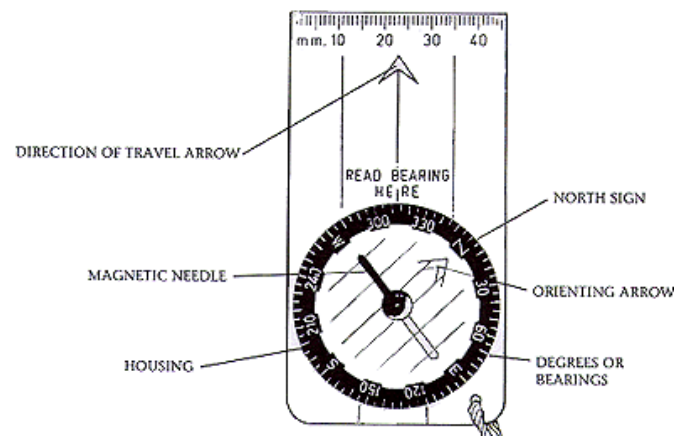


The Emery Babcock Outdoor Classroom at the Boston School Forest

Compass



1. Show the parts of the compass: base plate, direction of travel arrow, dial with degrees, magnetic needle (green) orienting arrow (underneath the dial).
2. Describe that circles can be measured in degrees and that degrees correspond with directions N, E, S, W.
3. Ask student to dial in a bearing by rotating the dial to match up the number with the direction arrow/white line.
4. Students should hold the base plate flat and the direction arrow out in the direction they are facing.
5. By moving your feet to turn your body (don't just turn the compass), line up the red magnetic needle in the shed underneath.
6. At the end, collect all 24 compasses and wrap the cord around each one. If they are wet, please leave the lid off.

Extensions and Reflections:

1. Ask kids to find the four cardinal directions. What is an object (i.e. tree) that lines up with each direction?
2. What is the bearing of the sun?
3. Teach the concept of pacing (count every 2 steps as one pace).
4. Have the students set up a course with a bearing and the distance. Give that information to another group and see if they can reach the right spot.



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