

Prep Year — What are places like?

Communicating with parents

Transcript of video 4 of 4

This video is available from www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/3312.html

What are places like? is available from www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/32639.html

Communicating with parents

Prep teacher

Okay, now that we've had a look at how well Livia's been going in Maths this year in Prep. I would like to show you some of the work that we've been doing in Geography this year. One of the tasks that the students had to do was observe the features of our Prep area and represent these features on a map.

[Shows parent a drawn map.] This is the map that Livia drew of all the features in our Prep area. Livia, would you like to describe to mum some of the features on your map and the location of these features?

Livia:

Prep child

[Points to features on her map.] The Preppie playground is in front of the trees and the trees are in front of the big kids' playground and on the right of the big kids' playground there is the footpath and on the right of the footpath there's the big shed and the little shed and that's the Preppie building.

Prep teacher

Very good, well done Livia. How do you think Livia's been going in Prep?

Parent:

Prep child's parent/carer

I'm actually really happy with how she's going. I think she seems to be making a lot of friends and she's really excited about all of her learning and she's coming home and chatting a lot about her day. So yeah, we're really pleased.

Prep teacher

That's really great to hear. As you can see, Livia has learnt a lot this year so far in Prep. So, I think what we might do now is we'll have a look and see how Livia actually went in the tasks.

Parent:

Prep child's parent/carer

Can I just ask? My son's in Grade Two and I don't remember him being taught Geography.

Prep teacher

No this is the first year that Geography has been taught in the school this year as a part of the national curriculum, okay.

So, basically, what we wanted the children to do in the task was to observe features in the Prep area and represent these features on a map and a model which we saw Livia do. What the students needed to show us was just to describe the features of their playground and

to recognise that places are represented on maps.

When we asked Livia to describe the features of familiar places and recognise that places can be represented on the maps, we saw that she was able to describe with detail by using words like *big kids' playground, the Preppie building*. She was able to describe with some detail of the features of familiar places. So, because she didn't quite recognise and locate all the places on her map, she got in the Working within area there. So she's making connections and working within her geographical knowledge and understanding. Okay?

Parent:

Prep child's parent/carer

Okay.

Prep teacher

As you can see on the tool here. [Shows parent the Task-specific standards.] We then wanted Livia to communicate and show in her model the location of some of the features and to use words like *left* and *right* and everyday language like *near, above, below, next to*.

Now in the curriculum what we expect at Prep is for her to describe some of the location of the features using everyday language and she did show that. She did use words like *below, in front, back* and *under*. But she also took it that step further and she used words — directional and locational language — like *left* and *right*. So that brought her just above what we expect in Prep according to the national curriculum. Okay, she effectively represented a range of features because she did manage to put all the features correctly in the correct location on her map.

Parent:

Prep child's parent/carer

Okay. What other topics will they be doing in Geography in Prep?

Prep teacher

In Semester 2, they'll be looking at how they can look after a special place. So this semester they looked at the features of their Prep area and locating it on a map. They'll also be then looking at the local area like the street. Next semester they'll be looking at how they can take care of these areas. So, a little bit about the environment as well.

Parent:

Prep child's parent/carer

Excellent.

Prep teacher

Okay.