

SEE — GEOGRAPHY · 3RD–6TH CLASS

Staidéar Logánta — Local Area Study

SESE Geography Fieldwork — 3rd–6th Class

Local area fieldwork activities — SESE Geography

- **MAP THE SCHOOL GROUNDS:** draw a bird's eye view. Add compass directions. Mark features: buildings, trees, playground, car park.
- **LAND USE SURVEY:** walk around the local area. Record land use: residential, commercial, agricultural, green space. What patterns do you see?
- **PHYSICAL FEATURES:** identify any rivers, hills, valleys, or coastline near the school. Use an OS map to name them.
- **ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP:** use a 1:50,000 OS Discovery map of your area. Find your school. Identify 5 features using the map key.
- **TOWNLAND STUDY:** every place in Ireland has a townland name. Research your townland — what does the name mean in Irish?
- **HUMAN FEATURES:** photograph buildings of different ages and styles. Can you estimate when each was built?
- **INTERVIEW:** ask an older community member what the area looked like 30-40 years ago. What has changed?
- **BEFORE AND AFTER:** find old photographs of your area on the National Library website or local library. Compare then and now.

phy — the three strands

How local area links to the full NCCA Geo

- **HUMAN ENVIRONMENTS:** settlement, economic activities, transport, tourism. Your local area is the starting point for all three.
- **NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS:** rivers, mountains, bogland, coastline. What natural features are near your school?



- ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND CARE: how is your local environment being looked after? What threats does it face?
- THE LOCAL → NATIONAL → GLOBAL PROGRESSION: SESE Geography starts local (your area) and gradually widens — to Ireland, to Europe, to the world. Each scale helps understand the next.
- ASSESSMENT: Geography projects are excellent assessment vehicles — map work, photographs, research, written reports. Portfolio assessment is encouraged.
- IRISH RESOURCES: OSi (Ordnance Survey Ireland) has free online maps at maps.osi.ie. IrishGenealogy.ie has historical census and land records. The National Photographic Archive has old local photographs.

