

# Google Activities for Kids

The following includes  
sample activities from the book.

# Our Neighborhood

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**Grade Level:** K–2 (Teacher-led)  
3–8 (Independent)

**Google Accounts:**

- For the teacher No\*
- For students No\*

**Overview:**

In this activity, the K–2 teacher will use Scribble Maps to help students make a list and then locate different neighborhood places on a map. Older students (3–8) can create the neighborhood map on their own.

\* If using Google Maps, accounts will be required. If using Scribble Maps, no accounts are necessary.

**Equipment/Materials Needed:**

- Computer/projector/screen
- Computer for each student (Optional)
- Internet access

**The Teacher Will:**

1. Ask the students if they have heard of the word, “neighbor” and ask them to tell what they think a neighbor is.
2. Continue the discussion to introduce the word “neighborhood” and tell them that a neighborhood is the area around where they live or where they go to school.
3. Once students understand the concept of neighborhood, use the instructions on the following page to create a neighborhood map.



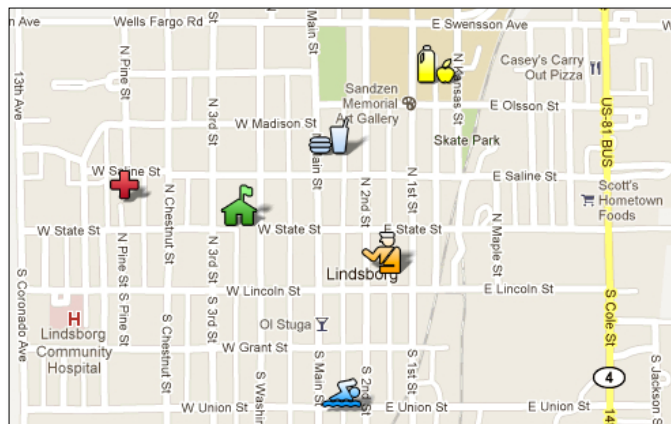
## Neighborhood Map Instructions

### Part 1:

1. The teacher will ask the students to brainstorm/list different places they know about or go to in their neighborhood. Places might include:
  - the park
  - the fire station
  - the swim pool / water park
  - an ice cream store
  - the grocery store
  - the school
2. The teacher will write the list of places on a whiteboard or type them into the computer.

### Part 2:

1. The teacher will go to:  
[www.scribblemaps.com](http://www.scribblemaps.com) or [maps.google.com](http://maps.google.com)
2. The teacher will search for the city where his/her school is located and will zoom in or out to an appropriate level.
3. The teacher will ask for volunteers to come up to the map and point to locate one of the places from the list.
4. The teacher or student will add an appropriate place mark for each location. (See instructions on pages 29–32.)



# My Hero Blog

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**Grade Level:** K–8\*

**Google Accounts:**

- For the teacher Yes
- For students No

**Overview:**

In this activity the teacher will create a “My Hero” blog. Students will choose someone they know personally as their hero. They will then email a picture of their hero, along with some descriptive text to the blog’s mail-to address.

\* If students do not have their own email addresses, they will need help from their parents or an older sibling or friend.

**Equipment/Materials Needed:**

- Computer for the teacher
- Computer or mobile device for each student
- Internet access
- Letter to parents – See example on the following page.

**The Teacher Will:**

1. Create a “My Hero” blog. (See pages 61–64.)
2. Set up comment moderation. (See page 77 & 78.)
3. Create a mail-to address for the blog. Be sure to chose the “Save emails as draft posts” option! (See page 83.)
4. Brainstorm the characteristics of a hero and ask the students to choose a real-life hero of their own.
5. Copy the directions on the following page or create a direction sheet of your own. (Be sure to fill in the blanks with the blog address and the mail-to address.)
6. Provide time (a few days or a weekend) for student to complete the activity.
7. Review the draft posts and publish!





## Hero Blog

In class, we have been talking about what makes a hero, and we are putting together a collaborative Hero Blog. You'll be able to see the blog with the students' posts here:

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Each student has been asked to choose a real-life hero of his/her own. With your help, students can use one of the following options to submit a picture of their hero along with a sentence or two describing why they chose that person.

Note – The first two options require email. Since your child probably doesn't have his/her own email address, he/she can use a parent's email account or maybe that of an older sibling or friend. (The return email address will not be shown in the blog and will not be shared with others.)

*Please choose one of the following options:*

### Option 1 – Smart Phone or Mobile Device

1. Use a phone's camera to take a picture of your hero. (If you want, you can draw a picture of your hero and then take a picture of your drawing.)
2. Add a sentence or two that tells why you chose that person.
3. Email the photo to: \_\_\_\_\_

### Option 2 – Computer

1. Use a digital camera or web cam to take a picture of your hero. (If you want, you can draw a picture of your hero and then take a picture of your drawing.)
2. In the email message area, write a sentence or two that tells why you chose that person.
3. Attach the photo and email it to: \_\_\_\_\_

### Option 3 – Offline

1. Find a snapshot of your hero, or draw a picture of your hero.
2. Write a sentence or two that tells why you chose that person.
3. Turn in your drawing and description at school. Your teacher will help you add it to the blog.