Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to understand and identify the four cardinal directions: north, south, east, and west.

Materials and Prep

- A large open space, such as a backyard or a park
- A compass (optional)
- A pen and paper

Activities

- 1. Take a nature walk: Go outside and explore your surroundings. Pay attention to the different directions you are facing as you walk. Observe any landmarks or signs that can help you identify the cardinal directions.
- 2. Create a compass rose: Draw a circle on a piece of paper. Divide the circle into four equal parts and label them as north, south, east, and west. Use arrows to indicate the direction of each cardinal point.
- 3. Play a direction game: Stand in the middle of the open space. Close your eyes and have a family member or friend call out a cardinal direction. Try to point in the correct direction without opening your eyes. Keep track of how many times you get it right.

Talking Points

- North: North is the direction that points towards the North Pole. It is usually at the top of maps.
- **South:** South is the opposite direction of north. It is the direction that points towards the South Pole.
- East: East is the direction that the sun rises in the morning. It is to the right when facing north.
- West: West is the direction that the sun sets in the evening. It is to the left when facing north.
- **Compass:** A compass is a tool that can help us find the cardinal directions. It has a needle that always points north.
- **Landmarks:** Landmarks are important features in the environment that can help us navigate and determine directions. Examples of landmarks include mountains, rivers, and buildings.