Trails & Geography at Home

Backstory: The Kumeyaay people were strongly connected with their land. They knew very well how to navigate their land and where to find valuable resources. The Kumeyaay were able to do this even though their territory consisted of over 20,000 square miles of land. Our society no longer has that same connection to our environment and most of us don’t realize what resources we have at our fingertips. In order to rekindle this connection, this activity was created to create awareness of local resources. To make it easier for you, we have limited “local” to an area that you should already be very familiar with: your home!

Description: Students will create maps of their homes, highlighting landmarks, resources, and trails to get from place to place. Students are provided with grid paper for them to draw their maps. If students have homes with more than one story, then a different piece of grid paper should be used for each story.

Students must include the following resources: water (sink, shower, faucets), food (fridge, freezer, pantry), electricity (main circuit breaker), and entertainment. To challenge the students, have them identify their most used routes used in their homes daily.

Notes: Landmarks can include anything the student feels is important to them (i.e. their bed, tv, DVD collection, family computer, game room, etc.)
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Directions: Use the grid below to map out the rooms of your home. If you live in a home with more than one floor, use more than one grid. Students must identify the following resources: water, food, and electricity, as well as landmarks, and most common traveled routes.