

## Time to Celebrate

### Purpose

Students will practice following one-step directions.

### Materials

*For the teacher:* chalk, chalkboard, *The Secret Birthday Message* by Eric Carle

*For the students:* copies of Black Line Master (BLM) *Send Me Somewhere*, markers, large paper

### Activity

#### A. Pre-Activity Discussion

1. Discuss the importance of following directions.
2. Ask students to provide examples of times when they followed directions and times when it might be important to follow directions.

#### B. Read the Book

1. Present the book *The Secret Birthday Message* by Eric Carle.
2. Ask students if they have any idea what this book might be about. Tell them that it is about a boy who has to follow a secret birthday message to find his birthday present.
3. Read the book, and remember to remind students to keep in mind the steps the boy has to follow.

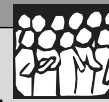
#### C. Recap the Events

1. Finish the book. Ask students to remember the list of directions the boy had to follow to find his birthday present. Record the steps on the chalkboard.
2. Ask for volunteers to retell the story using the steps on the chalkboard.

#### D. Apply What Students Have Learned

1. Pass out the BLM *Send Me Somewhere* and explain to students that they will be mapping out directions to send someone to a place in the classroom.

(continued)



#### MEETING INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Some students will have difficulty choosing a place in the classroom. Assist them by suggesting a few easy to find areas in the classroom.



#### EXTENDING THE ACTIVITY

Use simple recipes to teach students about following directions.

## Activity (continued)

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2. Ask students to think about a place in the classroom they could send someone.
3. Have students travel to that place.
4. When they return to their desks, explain that they will complete the BLM.

## Questions for Review

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### Basic Concepts and Processes

Check student understanding of following one-step directions by asking the following questions:



Why should you follow directions?



Can you give an example of a time when you followed directions?



Would it have made a difference if you didn't do the steps in order?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Send Me Somewhere

**Think of a place in the classroom you would like to send someone.**

**Now write the steps that tell how to get to that place. Make sure the steps are in order.**

**Draw a picture of the place.**

# Send Me Somewhere

## Teacher Directions

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Review the reasons that it is important to follow directions. Then pass out the BLM *Send Me Somewhere*. Allow students to walk to their destinations in order to have a better idea of how to write directions. Then read through the directions to make sure they understand what to do.

## Answer Key

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Student answers will vary. They will choose various destinations in the classroom, so check the accuracy of their steps.