

Teacher²Teacher

Dear Educator,

When I was growing up, I was fascinated by the movie *The Goonies*; an action-packed adventure about young kids following clues and a map in order to find a legendary treasure. Now, as an adult, there is still a part of me that has a fascination with action, adventure, and treasure hunting. That's why I became a teacher! So when my brother and sister-in-law introduced me to geocaching, an action-adventure game using GPS technology to find hidden "treasure," needless to say, I was all ears!

I'll never forget that first hunt. They taught me how to use a GPS receiver, what lingo to use, and what to look for. After a nice hike through the local park, we found a small plastic container lodged inside the knot of a tree. Inside this hidden container were all sorts of tiny trinkets and a logbook to sign. What a neat concept! After that first hunt, I went online to look up more of these hidden "treasures," only to find that there was an entire world of people hiding and seeking caches, many of which involved puzzle solving and learning about interesting places and locales in the world. It was then that the idea first struck me: Teachers and students can use the amazing technology of GPS to participate in hunts that center around learning! I began to think of ways to do this with my own students, and after speaking with my principal and receiving funds to purchase GPS receivers, I began to write this manual of how I and other teachers could use this technology in the classroom.

That manual is what you now hold in your hands. It is filled with information, ideas, lessons, and tools for you to tailor GPS technology to your own students' needs. This manual, however, is merely a springboard to help get you started. The possibilities of Educaching™ are only limited by your imagination and creativity. I look forward to seeing what the teachers of tomorrow will do with the concept of Educaching™. I am truly excited for you as you and your students embark on an exciting journey of seeking knowledge!

Happy Hunting,



Jason Hubbard
5th Grade Educator