

From Our Street to Our Planet · Conversation & classroom guide

Learning with a grown-up · Ages 4–8 · Flexible participation

Which picture shows a larger area: the street or the city?

Learning aim: Use one example to distinguish city, country, continent and planet.

A five-minute conversation

Follow the pictures outward from a public street in Paris. Pause at each label and notice how much more of the world the next view shows.

Start here: Read labels and let children follow the arrows; focus on small place versus larger place.

Explore further: Explain the different map scales and the mainland-France example without equating Europe with the EU.

Which picture shows a larger area: the street or the city?

Answer cue: The city view includes a much larger area. The pictures use different scales; they are not objects placed inside physical layers of Earth.

Which country and continent is Paris in?

Answer cue: Paris is a city in France, in Europe. Pointing to the labels is a useful first answer.

What is the name of the planet all these places belong to?

Answer cue: Earth. It is our shared home planet.

Keep the idea clear

This is one example using Paris, not Olivia's established home or every child's location. The France map shows mainland France; France also has overseas areas. Europe is a continent, not the same thing as the European Union. Neighborhood boundaries vary and streets can cross them.

Try: Tell a zoom-out story

Materials: No materials required; paper is optional.

1. Choose a public example, such as the pictured Paris street.
2. Say or point: street, neighborhood, city, country, continent, planet.
3. Name another city or town you have heard of. It is fine not to know every larger place yet; look together in an atlas later.

What this can show: Can the child distinguish France from Europe and connect Paris to both? No private address or travel experience is needed. Treat the sequence as an example, not a test of where the child lives.

Return to it: Return from Earth to Paris. Which picture would you choose to see one street more closely?

From Our Street to Our Planet · In the classroom

A 20-minute classroom lesson

Prepare: Read the picture and answer cues. Have the optional explorer's notebook available. No materials required; paper is optional.

Words to explore

street — A road with buildings along it.

neighborhood — An area within a town or city.

city — A large place where people live and work.

country — An area with its own government.

continent — One of the large land regions of Earth.

planet — A large, round world that travels around a star.

3 min · Notice: Sequence: point along the six views from street to Earth.

4 min · Compare: Name: identify Paris as city, France as country and Europe as continent.

8 min · Try together: Choose a public example, such as the pictured Paris street. Say or point: street, neighborhood, city, country, continent, planet. Name another city or town you have heard of. It is fine not to know every larger place yet; look together in an atlas later.

5 min · Explain: Compare: ask which adjacent view includes a larger area.

Understanding check: Can the child distinguish France from Europe and connect Paris to both?

Answer guidance: The city view includes a much larger area. The pictures use different scales; they are not objects placed inside physical layers of Earth. Paris is a city in France, in Europe. Pointing to the labels is a useful first answer. Earth. It is our shared home planet.

Read the ordered labels aloud and provide an oral sequence for children who find inset maps hard to scan.

A response to keep

Draw or describe a place from the poster. It can be the public street, the city or Earth.

One clue I can explain now...

Something else I wonder...

<https://kiddos.ai/learn/olivia-the-globetrotter/street-to-planet>

Related story: Olivia and Doudou in Paris — Olivia and Doudou in Paris supplies the familiar destination. The zoom-out sequence adds geographic context rather than asserting a home address or new story event.

Our discovery record

Use words, marks, a drawing or an adult's notes. Keep this page with you; nothing needs to be uploaded.

Date / time (if useful): _____

My question or idea

What I noticed

What I think now

What I want to explore next

Stories to continue together: <https://kiddos.ai/books>

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