

CARTOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES: AN ESSAY ON THE INTERDISCIPLINARITY

ANTONIA BRITO RODRIGUES

University of the State of Rio de Janeiro - UERJ

Municipal School Gonzaga da Gama Filho–Rio de Janeiro

Av. Atlântica nº458 /1202 - Leme - Rio de Janeiro-RJ- Brazil- 22.010-000

Phone/Fax 055021-275-5243

E-mail: antonia@opelink.com.br

The objective of this paper is to defend the use of cartographic activities as a didactic resource in understanding the several themes of the organization of the life space of the student and to recognize the cartographic activities proposed as an interdisciplinarity practice taking into account the interlacing of the written and (carto) graphic languages.

A set of cartographic activities is proposed that approaches the themes for the study of the city of Rio de Janeiro, stressing the several situations of the local reality that, from the viewpoint of Geography, Portuguese Language and History are to clarify the production of the urban space and of the social relations that generate these spaces, as well as of the environmental dimension.

The proposal is to incorporate this set of cartographic activities as a didactic resource in the development of the themes in this programme of the 4th and 5th series of the Brazilian elementary school.

As the intention is to use the cartographic activities as support for the several themes approached during the school year, the students shaped images of the several neighborhoods in town, enlarging their reference territorial basis. As they begin to get skilled in cartography practice, there are several objectives to be reached at the same time: to build these contents from the conceptual point of view, to develop skills for observing, describing, analyzing, establishing analogies, criticizing, to represent afterwards, and then go on to build original knowledge

This set of cartographic activities that involves the use of historical, geographic and cartographic concepts, demonstration of values and activities, creativity, using the text analysis, interpretation and graphic representation, mapping, production of maps and cartographic reports, exercises an attitude of criticizing as a citizen-investigator of the reality of the place in which he/she belongs.

Cartographic activities are presented and are being elaborated by the students by means of an interdisciplinary research, and thus they can undergo changes in a collective construction process.

Three main activities are suggested:

1st. Activity: when the different languages interlace with Cartography

2nd Activity: Observing, Mapping and Evaluating the Environmental Quality of the neighborhoods in Rio de Janeiro

3rd Activity: Building a mini touristic atlas of the city of Rio de Janeiro.