Latitudes: An Angeleno’s Atlas

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Questions and Activities

1. People view buildings differently. Some people like the way a particular building looks and others don’t. Is there a building in your neighborhood or near your school that you like? Why do you like it? Draw a map that shows how you would get to this building from where you live or from school, including landmarks and other buildings you see along the way.

2. Walk around your neighborhood. What do you see that makes this place feel like home? Why is that? How would you feel if this neighborhood changed?

3. Describe the routes you take on a typical school day starting from where you live until you arrive back home. Do you walk, bike, take a school bus, public transportation, or use a car? Give the names of the streets or the freeways, the bus or the Metros you used. Describe several places/buildings/signs/names/murals anywhere along these routes that you think are unique to your city.

4. In your neighborhood or near your school, are there any historic markers or historic buildings? Are there any streets or building names that refer to historic figures or events? If so, what are they? Why do you think that they are important?
5. In your neighborhood or near your school, are there signs, street names, or building names that are written in another language than English? If so, what is that language? Who are the communities of people who have immigrated to your city? Your neighborhood? In what ways have they have enriched the place you live?