

# THE PARK

**Lesson Length:** 1.25 hours + Extension Activities

**Vocabulary & Expressions:** Outdoor activities

**Language/Culture Point:** Present continuous

**Objective:** Students will learn about their local parks and park-related activities and be able to make/accept/decline invitations.

**Materials:** Overhead projector, pictures of local parks, computer, projector, PPT Presentation: At the Park, printed PPT slides, Survey: Parks and Activities, internet connection, speakers (optional), Picture Cards: Activities at the Park, *information about local parks, music player with speakers, Cloze Test*



## STEP 1: ACTIVATE BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
5 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overhead projector</li> <li>- Picture of a local park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Using Pictures</li> <li>- Mind Mapping</li> </ul>

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Project a picture of a local park, and write the word “park” in the center of a circle on the board.
2. Ask students, “Do you ever go to the park? What kinds of things do you like to do at the park?”
3. Write the students’ ideas on the board, grouping similar ideas together in a Mind Mapping activity. Whenever possible, write verbs in the -ing form: swimming, hiking, eating, etc.



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## STEP 2: MINI-PRESENTATION WITH PROMPT

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Computer and Projector</li><li>- PPT Presentation: At the Park</li><li>- Alternative: printed slides/ photographs/pictures</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Teaching with PowerPoint</li><li>- Using Pictures</li></ul>

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Give a presentation about a day you watched people doing things in a park you like to visit. Focus on including -ing words, such as: reading, sleeping, playing a game, fishing, walking a dog, picnicking, grilling, riding a bike, swimming, running, resting, flying a kit, etc.

## STEP 3: DISCUSSION AND COMPREHENSION CHECK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Printed PowerPoint slides</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Picture Stories</li></ul>

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Pair up students and give each pair a copy of the presentation. Have students work together to recreate the story with their partners.
2. Go through the presentation again, and as you get to each activity, have students hold up the corresponding picture.

## STEP 4: HIGHLIGHT LESSON FOCUS AND MODEL TASK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Pictures of local parks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Using Pictures</li><li>- Graphic Organizers</li></ul>



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### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Tell the students that today you are going to talk about things to do at the local park and practice inviting people to go to the park.

2. Show pictures of local parks. Model several different ways of issuing an invitation and either accepting or declining the invitation. For example:

A: Do you like swimming?

B: Yes.

A: Do you want to go swimming next weekend at (local park)?

B: That sounds fun. Sure!

A: Do you like playing tennis?

B: I don't know. I've never done it.

A: Would you like to try playing tennis next weekend at (local park)?

B: No, thanks. I am too busy.

3. Create two columns on the board with the headings "Yes" and "No." Elicit polite ways to accept and decline invitations, and fill in the chart.

"Yes" examples:

Yes, thank you.

I would love to.

That sounds good.

I will plan on it.

"No" examples:

No, thank you.

I can't make it, but thanks anyway.

I'm sorry, I won't be able to go.

I'm not sure I'll have the time.

### STEP 5: GUIDED PRACTICE

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
5 minutes	- Survey: Parks and Activities	- Surveys and Interviews

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Ask a student, "Do you like playing basketball?" and "Would you like to play basketball at (local park) this weekend?" Help the student to politely accept or decline the invitation.

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2. Have that student invite another student to do something at the park. The second student should politely accept or decline the invitation.
3. Give students a survey with the following columns: Name, Activity, Park, Yes/No.
4. Model how to fill in the information for the two students.


## STEP 6: PAIR OR SMALL GROUP WORK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Survey: Parks and Activities	- Surveys and Interviews - Question Asking and Answering

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Have the students walk around the room asking other students about activities and inviting them to go do an activity at a local park. Students should fill in the chart for each person they talk to.

## STEP 7: HIGHLIGHT HOW ENGLISH WORKS

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Computer and Projector - Internet connection  - Speakers (optional)	- Using Videos

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Explain to students that when someone is doing an activity *right now*, you say “I am doing this,” or “She is doing that.” Give examples by showing what you’re doing *right now*. For example:
  - You are writing.
  - You are teaching.
  - You are holding a marker.

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2. Ask students what they're doing *right now*. For example:  
 They are writing.  
 They are sitting.  
 They are watching you.
3. Show students a video with minimal dialogue of someone doing a variety of activities. Sound is optional. Good examples include videos of Mr. Bean and Road Runner videos.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWCSQm86UB4>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HO\\_MzWsJgpM&NR=1&feature=endscreen](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HO_MzWsJgpM&NR=1&feature=endscreen)

4. Stop throughout the video to point out the different actions being performed. Elicit as many responses from the students as possible.
5. If time allows, run through the video a second time without pausing. See how many different actions students can identify by having them call out the actions as they happen.

## STEP 8: QUICK CHECK AND REVIEW

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Picture Cards: Activities at the Park	- Charade Relay


### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Divide students into two teams with each team lining up on opposite sides of the room.
2. Have a stack of Picture Cards ready in the middle of the room. Each card should have a different activity on it, such as swimming, running, jumping, flying a kite, etc.
3. One person from each team should come to the middle of the room, choose a card, and face his/her team.
4. When you say, "Go!" each person should act out the card for his/her team. The team must correctly guess what the person is doing using the -ing form of the verb.
5. Once the team guesses correctly what the student is doing, he/she moves to the back of the line and the next person runs to the middle of the room to grab a card and act it out.
6. The first team to finish moving down its line wins!

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## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES: FIELD TRIP TO THE PARK/LET'S LISTEN!

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
Varies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information about local parks</li> <li>- Computer or Overhead projector</li> <li>- Internet connection and speakers, and/or music player with speakers</li> <li> - Cloze Test</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Authentic Materials</li> <li>- Field Trip</li> <li>- Using Music</li> <li>- Cloze Test</li> </ul>

### TEACHING ACTIVITY #1

1. Bring in information about local parks (amenities, hours, etc.) with pictures. You can print them off of the internet or ask your local Parks and Recreation Department what they can supply.
2. Either online or using an overhead projector, pull up/show information about a local park. Point out the different information available: the hours, the location, rules, and what you can do at the park.
3. The students should decide which park would be the best for a class field trip based on the activities available, location, etc.
4. Take a class field trip to the park! Have a picnic/barbecue. While you are at the park, have students keep a running list of all the -ing activities they observe people doing throughout the event. At the end of the day, the student with the longest list wins.

### TEACHING ACTIVITY #2

1. Choose a song that has a variety of -ing words in the lyrics and play it for the class.  
Examples include:
  - Low Level: Rod Stewart, "Sailing"
  - Intermediate Level: Fool's Garden, "Lemon Tree"
  - Intermediate Level: Suzanne Vega, "Tom's Diner"
  - Advanced Level: Avril Lavigne, "Things I'll Never Say"
2. Play the song one time through while the students just listen.
3. Ask, "What -ing words did you hear?"



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4. Hand out a Cloze Test, and play the song a second time while students follow along with the lyrics.
5. Play the song a third time and have the students fill in the missing words. You can provide a word bank, if necessary.
6. Go over the test as a class.

