



Two Looking Challenges

This is a jam-packed activity that requires students to use their visual literacy skills to attend to New York City's built environment. Students will discover some of the history of the Empire State Building, some unique features of a New York neighborhood and gather some information about life in the 1930's.

Activity

Here are two challenges to find out how well your students pay attention to the sights around them. The first challenge takes place in the lobby of the Empire State Building. The second challenge takes place on 34th Street in the Empire State Building's neighborhood.

****Please note that it is not appropriate or fair to other visitors, to have a large group explore the lobby of this highly-visited building. We strongly suggest that you divide your students into small groups to complete this challenge!**

Looking Challenge #1

We challenge your students to find the following in the lobby of the Empire State Building:

- the latitude and longitude of the Empire State Building
- a replica of the Empire State Building itself
- a tribute to the metalworkers who worked on building the Empire State Building
- a tribute to masons who worked on building the Empire State Building
- a tribute to the carpenters who worked on building the Empire State Building
- A pyramid
- Zigzags under foot
- A symbol of the United States
- An elevator that's not plain!

Discuss with your students what they found and what purpose they think each item serves. Why was it placed in the lobby of the Empire State Building?



Looking Challenge #2

(these are harder than Challenge #1)

We challenge your students to find the following outside on 34th Street --- in the Empire State Building's neighborhood:

- A small brown building that looks very out of place
- A famous parade
- At least one balcony
- A rosette
- A building with a number for it's name
- A building with a real name
- Ladies protecting a door.
- A building that can tell time
- A square that will Herald your arrival

Materials Needed

Printed version of the challenges

Street maps of New York City