Primary Geography Alive: People Live in Places (Lesson 8)

Lesson 8: Locating a place		
Content focus: In this lesson students investigate how places they know are shown on different kinds of maps. They investigate how places can be shown using picture maps and have the opportunity to draw on their own 'mental maps' to show some ideas of location.		Resources: Digital Maps (Google Maps or Google World on a computer, tablet, mobile phone or smart-board) A wall map of NSW. Any other maps showing the local area (street directories/picture maps etc.
How can we use different kinds of maps to locate places and show features of them?	Outcomes: A student: demonstrates the skills of interpreting aerial photographs and maps of their place draws a pictorial mental maps of the area near their house and school.	 Step 1: The teacher shows students a digital map of their school, and converts it from a map to an aerial photograph using Google Earth or similar. Students are encouraged to identify the parts of the school as seen from above. Step 2: The teacher changes the scale of the digital map to show more of the surrounding area. Each child is asked to find his/her house on the map and to trace their usual journey between school and home with their finger. Step 3: Each student draws a picture map of some of the features they see on their way to school, or a picture map of the places around their home.