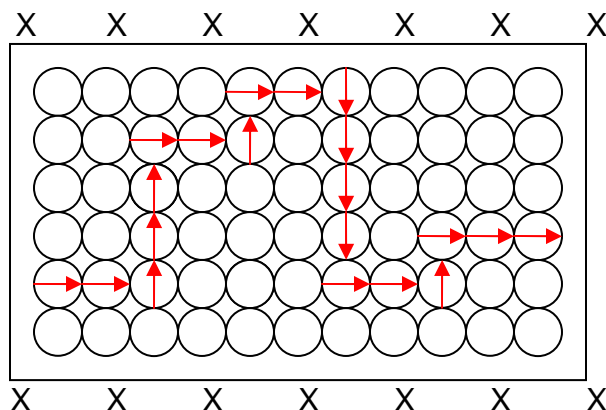


Finding the Correct Research Area

This activity is to simulate the procedure scientist's use in determining locations of hydrothermal vents. By taking samples from various locations scientists can narrow the exploration field before using more expensive techniques for surveying. By eliminating areas that do not support further exploration, scientists can focus their funding on areas that will produce maximum results. Students also focus on communication skills, working together to solve the problem. This lesson is best taught in the **convergent** style of teaching.

A grid of hula-hoops is placed on the floor. Before the class begins a predetermined path is set up that will guide the students through the hula-hoops. The students surround the grid and wait for their turn. If a student steps in the correct hoop they may continue through the hoops. If a student steps in an incorrect hoop they must exit the grid and the next student begins. Students who are observing work with the student in the grid reminding them of the hoops which have been identified as correct. The goal is for the entire group to make it through the grid successfully. Grids can be as small or as large as you need. Students can move forward or sideways not diagonal. Below is a possible path.



"X" = STUDENTS

Modifications – students can also add movements to each hoop to increase the number of variables and the difficulty. For example, students need to move to the proper hoop by using a specific locomotor task. Hop, jump, step are some examples and this will increase the difficulty and the communication between the students.