Complete the following sentences based on your understanding of the image:

1. The cat is sitting __________ the dining table.
2. The clock is __________ the table.
3. The candle stick is ________ the wall.
4. A beautiful bushy flower vase is kept _______ the sofa.
5. The fish is swimming __________ glass bowl.
6. A tea cup is placed __________ the cupboard.
7. The mirror is hanging _________ the wall.
8. The pillow in ________ the cupboard.
9. The tea jar is _______ the sofa.
10. The carpet is ________ the stool.
Prepositions:

The words you have used in the above blanks are preposition.

- A preposition in a sentence shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence.
  - Commonly used prepositions are about, before, by, during, on, under, etc.

- Prepositions formed from more than one word are called compound prepositions.
  - Commonly used compound prepositions are according to, in place of, because of, and instead of.

- A preposition usually indicates the temporal, spatial or logical relationship of its object to the rest of the sentence. Read the following examples:
  
  The cup is on the table.
  The cup is beneath the table.
  The cup is leaning against the table.
  The cup is beside the table.
  He held the book over the table.
  She dropped the cup during class.

In each of the preceding sentences, a preposition locates the noun "cup" in space or in time.

- List of prepositions

  about, above, across, after, against, along, among, around, at, before, behind, below, beneath, beside, besides, between, beyond, but (when it means except), by, concerning, down, during, except, for, from, in, inside, into, like, near, of, off, on, out, outside, over, past, since, through, to, toward, under, until, up, upon, with, within, and without.
Important points about prepositions

At tells where an object or subject is while to refers to another location.

For measures time while since refers to a specific period.

Use in or for with general measurements and on or at for specific dates.

Specific days require the preposition on or for while general measurements call for the proposition in.

Quantities

Regions

About, around and up to are used to create approximate quantifications.

The whole family loves to go sailing in the springtime. Are you going to the barbecue on the 4th of July?

When referring to a street or road, on is the word of choice.

There’s a bank on Birch Street.

Whenever an infinitive is used, a helping verb is required.

CORRECT: I would like to visit Washington D.C.

INCORRECT: I would like visit Washington D.C.

Some constructions don’t need additional prepositions.

Phrases that require a preposition, include:

- Afraid of
- Love of
- Concern for
- Study for
- Worry about

When making comparisons, the second preposition can be omitted if it’s the same as the first. However, it must be included if the second phrase requires a different preposition.

We drove to the beach and swam in the ocean. The climate in the United States is much different than Norway.

Although ending a sentence with a preposition is considered incorrect, these constructions are used every day.
Activity 1

Read the following text and underline the prepositions:

**Quilts - more than mere objects…**

A quilt is simply a cover for a bed. But, to many women, it has a deeper significance. In colonial America, women often sewed and assembled quilts together. These quilting parties were a chance for much-needed socialization. Quilts were pieced together from extra cloth swatches. Each piece reminded the quilter of a loved one. Quilts were often presented as gifts. Instead of money, young newlyweds would receive a quilt. Today, quilts have regained much of the popularity they had years ago. By means of quilts, people today can touch the past.

Activity 2

**Identify the prepositional phrases in the following sentences:**

1. Between the two houses is a large white fence.
2. Our class met some visitors from China.
3. Their charming cottage is near Lake Cumberland.
4. Have you eaten anything since breakfast?
5. The cricket match was cancelled on account of heavy rain.
6. The marine engineers were working inside the submarine.
7. Messy, football player of Argentina, always plays according to the rules.

Activity 3

**Add a prepositional phrase to each sentence using the preposition specified in parentheses. Write your new sentence on the lines below:**

Example:

There is a wood house. (in)

There is a wood house in the woods.
1. We set up the camp. (after)

2. Kurunji flower grows. (near)

3. The hikers took flashlights. (in addition to)

4. I would love to eat vegetables. (instead of)

5. Everyone liked the pizza. (expect)

Activity 4

4.1 Read the following poem and identify the prepositions:

Underneath the Skin

Underneath the skin—brown, yellow, black or white,
In the mind hidden
From sight,
Down the body,
Through the heart,
Among the people,
Between the nations,
Around the world,
Outside the corner market,
At the cemetery,
Within the places of worship,
Unforgiving festers; hate infests too many of us.
4.2 Write a simple poem using prepositions. You may refer to the preposition word bank given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>from</th>
<th>towards</th>
<th>by</th>
<th>into</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>over</td>
<td>on</td>
<td>to</td>
<td>up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beneath</td>
<td>off</td>
<td>because of</td>
<td>down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>above</td>
<td>below</td>
<td>outside</td>
<td>inside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>underneath</td>
<td>but</td>
<td>between</td>
<td>etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>besides</td>
<td>with</td>
<td>around</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>along among</td>
<td>at</td>
<td>through</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

URLs for further reference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Web links (URL)</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxPmOS8zKHQ">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxPmOS8zKHQ</a></td>
<td>Help teacher in teaching prepositions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><a href="http://www.teach-this.com/resources/prepositions">http://www.teach-this.com/resources/prepositions</a></td>
<td>Activities based on prepositions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dailygrammar.com/archive.html">http://www.dailygrammar.com/archive.html</a></td>
<td>Examples and Exercises in different complexity levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><a href="http://www.englishpractice.com/common-mistakes/common-errors-prepositions-3/">http://www.englishpractice.com/common-mistakes/common-errors-prepositions-3/</a></td>
<td>Common mistakes in using prepositions (With explanation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><a href="http://owl.centralia.edu/handouts/preps.pdf">http://owl.centralia.edu/handouts/preps.pdf</a></td>
<td>Summary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>