

Grade 5 Social Studies

Week of Sept 28- Oct 2

Curricular Area: Physiographic Features and Natural Resources

Lesson Materials

- Map Skills Booklet (This PDF)

Learning Targets

- I can you recognize that different types of maps represent different types of information (e.g. relief maps, resource distribution, topographic maps, political maps)
- I can you use keys and legends to interpret maps (e.g. resources, economic activities, transportation routes, capital cities, population)?

Task

Read through the lessons on Map Skills this Learning Guide. After you read through the lessons completed the activities which follow. You can print the Learning Guide, or, copy out the questions on a separate piece of paper.

Introduction to Mapping

There are many different types of maps, from very simple maps drawn on scraps of paper to highly complex computer animated maps of the bottom of the oceans and the insides of our brains. Most maps, no matter what kind, have some common features. Knowing the most common parts of a map is a useful for reading and interpreting maps.

In this lesson, you will examine the following map elements:

1. Titles and Labels
2. Symbols
3. Orientation
4. The Legend
5. The Scale

Each of these elements provides useful information. Although some maps may be missing one or more of these basic elements, each element has a unique and important function on a map.

Titles and Labels

Titles and labels identify what the map is about and provide names of places and other important information. Like a newspaper headline, the title of a map should tell the reader "what," "where," and "when" about the map.

Tips on Technique

1. Use **neat BLOCK printing**. (Never use handwriting on maps.)
2. Use the **same size of print** for all names of a similar type. (For example: all countries look the same, all cities look the same, all rivers look the same)
3. **Print names HORIZONTALLY** across the map. (Don't put names on an angle or up and down, unless it is the name of a river written along the river.)
4. **Centre place names** immediately above, below, or in the middle of the place you are naming. (Never use arrows to point names to a location.)

Take a look at the map on the next page. Notice that:

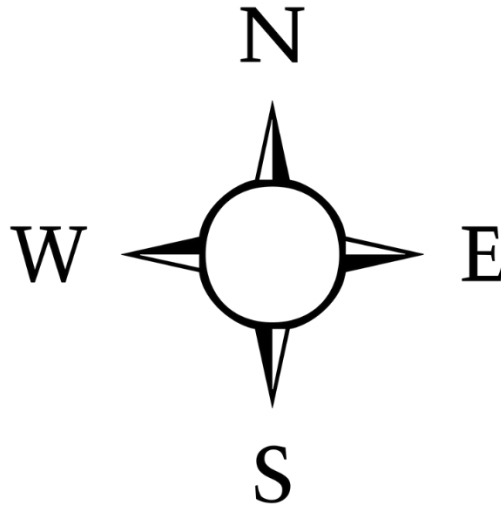
- all labels are printed horizontally.
- the same size print is used for names of places that are similar. (All provinces are in one type of print, all cities in another, all oceans in another.)
- arrows have not been used anywhere to "point out" names of locations.



Orientation

Orientation identifies which direction your map is facing. The top of a map usually points in a North direction (which means that the bottom is South, the right side is East and the left side is West).

Most maps include a very important symbol called a "Compass Rose". This ensures that it is clear which direction the map is oriented.



Occasionally the top of the map will not be North, in which case the “**Compass Rose**” will be drawn on the map to show which direction is actually North.

Tips on Technique

1. The top of your map page will normally point to the North.
2. If the top of your page is not pointing towards the North, you must include a North Arrow or “Compass Rose” that points in the northward direction.




Symbols on Maps

Symbols:

















































In addition to titles and labels, maps may have symbols. Symbols make things of a similar type easy to see at a glance. Symbols are also an excellent way to display information visually without using a whole bunch of words. Symbols can appear in many forms including:

- **Point symbols** (for cities, bridges, picnic sites and so on),
- **Line symbols** (for roads, railroads, rivers, country borders and so on), and
- **Area symbols** (for forests, deserts, population densities, temperature and rainfall, elevation and many other uses).

Tips on Technique:

1. **Use symbols when names get too crowded** (for example, use a symbols such as  for a Capital city, a  for an airport, or  for public campsites, then copy the symbol and label it in your Legend)
2. **Put all map symbols in your legend** and label your legend symbols section.
3. **Pencil crayon is the best** colouring tool for basic maps. (Never use felt pens except for outlining.)
4. **Use contrasting colours** that are easy to tell from one another. (For example, don't use **red** and **pink** and **purple** together; instead, use **red, yellow, blue, or green**)

Using symbols is a really informative, user-friendly way to provide information to tourists in your town.

 Airport - Domestic	 Private College	 Lookout - 360° view	 Scout Hall
 Airport - International	 Public College	 Lookout - 180° view	 Service Station
 Ambulance Station	 Express Post	 Masonic Centre	 Shopping Centre
 Barbecue	 Fire Station	 Memorial / Monument	 Swimming Pool
 Cycleway	 Golf Course	 Motel	 Taxi Stand
 Boat fueling point	 Guide Hall	 Picnic	 Telephone
 Boat Ramp	 Hospital	 Place of Worship	 Toilets
 Bowling Club	 Hotel	 Playground	 Weighbridge
 Bus Stop	 Information Centre	 Police Station	 Wineries
 Camping Area	 Kindergarten	 Post Office	 Distance from GPO
 Caravan Park	 Library	 Private School	 Roundabout
 Car Park	 Lighthouse	 Public School	 Traffic Lights

Common Map Symbols

Here are some common map symbols. How many of the symbols show items you have in your neighbourhood? Pick ten symbols that represent something you have in your neighbourhood and complete the activity sheet at the end of this lesson booklet.

Land forms

	Terrace
	Spur
	Re-entrant
	Earth bank
	Quarry
	Earth wall
	Erosion gully
	Small erosion gully
	Hill
	Knoll
	Saddle
	Depression
	Small depression
	Pit
	Broken ground
	Ant hill

Rock and boulders

	Cliff, Rock face
	Rock pillar
	Cave
	Boulder
	Boulder field
	Boulder cluster
	Stony ground
	Bare rock
	Narrow passage

Water and marsh

	Lake
	Pond
	Waterhole
	River, Stream, Watercourse
	Minor water channel, Ditch
	Narrow marsh
	Marsh
	Firm ground in marsh
	Well
	Spring
	Water tank, Water trough

Vegetation

	Open land
	Semi-open land
	Forest corner
	Clearing
	Thicket
	Linear thicket
	Vegetation boundary
	Copse
	Distinctive tree
	Tree stump, Root stock



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Man-made features

	Road
	Track/Path
	Ride
	Bridge
	Power line
	Power line pylon
	Tunnel
	Stone wall
	Fence
	Crossing point
	Building
	Paved area
	Ruin
	Pipeline
	Tower
	Shooting platform
	Boundary stone, Cairn
	Fodder rack
	Platform
	Monument or Statue
	Building pass through
	Stairway

Special features

	Special item
	Special item

Map Skills 1 Activity – Common Map Symbols

Map Skills 1

Common Map Symbols

1. Draw ten symbols. Tell what each symbol represents.

Symbol	Means	Symbol	Means