

TYPES OF MAPS AND COMPASS SKILLS

What are Maps?

Maps are pictures that show places **from above**, as is they were drawn by someone in an airplane. Maps have titles to tell what the map shows.

Globe - a model of the Earth, a very small copy of Earth in its actual round shape, which is called a sphere



Physical Map - shows landforms and bodies of water

Political Map - shows borders of states and countries. It shows where cities are located. Capital cities are usually marked with a star.

History map - shows an area as it was in the past. A map of the Thirteen Colonies is a history map.



Grid maps - have a pattern of lines that form squares with numbers and letters. Numbers may go across the bottom. Letters may go up the sides. By finding a square associated with a letter and a number you can easily locate places.

Locator map - a small inset that shows how a place fits into a bigger place

What is a Compass?

A compass is a tool for determining direction by using a magnetic needle which points to the **North Pole**.







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cardinal

physical

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Cardinal directions - North, South, East, West

Intermediate directions - places between the cardinal directions, northeast, northwest, southeast, southwest

Other Map Vocabulary Words:

Atlas - a book of many maps

Border - a boundary line that divides one state or country from another **Symbol** - a shape, line or color that stands for something on a map **Map key** - a box in which all the symbols are explained. Sometimes called a map legend

Scale - a tiny ruler that compares the actual distance to the distance on a map



Try this!



Look at a map of the United States.

Find your state. What are the states that border your state? Do you have an ocean or another country as a border?

Can you fir



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