Using Maps

A map is a drawing of a place. Maps are flat. They show what places look like from above.

Maps can show many things. This is a special map called a floor plan. A floor plan shows the rooms in a place.

What kind of place does the floor plan show? What rooms can you see? What two rooms are next to the Kitchen?
Many maps have symbols. A symbol is something that stands for something else. Symbols on a map can be pictures, shapes, or colors that stand for real things. To find out what symbols on a map stand for, look at the map key. A map key tells what each symbol means.

Find the map key on the map. What symbol stands for a House? How many Stores are on the map? What other things does the map show?
Most maps have a title. The title tells what the map shows. What is the title of this map?

The United States is a **country**. A country is a land and the people who live there. The people who live in the United States are called Americans.
The United States is made up of 50 states. Each state has a name. Many maps show the names of places, like states. They also show the names of different bodies of water.

Name two things that maps can show.
Using Globes

A globe is a model of the earth. A model is a small copy of something. A globe is round like the earth.

A globe shows places on the earth. This side of the globe shows many countries. Find the United States on the globe.
There are four important directions on the earth. They are north, east, south, and west.

North is the direction toward the North Pole.

When you face north, west is the direction to your left. When you face north, east is the direction to your right.

South is the direction toward the South Pole.

Look at the globe on page 6. Find Canada. Canada is the country that is north of the United States. What country is south of the United States?

How is a globe like the earth?
The largest bodies of land on Earth are called continents. There are seven of them. Do you know which continent you live on?

Guess What

Scientists believe all the continents were once part of one giant landmass. Millions of years ago, the land split into pieces. Look at the map. You can see how the continents might fit together like a puzzle.
Match the name of each continent with its shape. Use the world map on the opposite page to help you. Write the letter of the answer on the line. The first one has been done for you.

   1. South America

   2. Europe

   3. Asia

   4. Africa

   5. Australia

   6. North America
Our Enormous Oceans

Water covers almost all of Earth’s surface. Earth’s land divides the water into five main parts called oceans. Can you find the names of the oceans on this map?

Circle the names of the oceans on this map.
Use the map on the opposite page to help you name these oceans.

1. You can find my waters west of North America and South America and east of Asia and Australia. ____________________________

2. If you travel from North America to Europe, you will have to cross my salty waters. ____________________________

3. I am the smallest ocean. I am found north of Asia, Europe, and North America. ____________________________

4. If you swim off the west coast of Australia, you are in my waters. ____________________________

5. I am the ocean that surrounds Antarctica. ____________

Guess What
The deepest part of the ocean is in the Pacific Ocean. If you could put the tallest mountain on Earth there, the mountain top would still be underwater.
Each half of Earth is called a hemisphere.

If you divide Earth this way, the top half is the Northern Hemisphere. The bottom half is the Southern Hemisphere. Label the hemispheres in the boxes on this globe. Write NH on the Northern Hemisphere. Write SH on the Southern Hemisphere.

If you divide Earth this way, the right half is the Eastern Hemisphere. What do you think the left half is called? Label the hemispheres in the boxes on this globe.
Special lines on maps and globes divide the hemispheres.

The **equator** is the line that divides the Northern Hemisphere from the Southern Hemisphere. Trace the equator on this map. Which three continents does it cross?

1.  
2.  
3.  

The **prime meridian** is the line that (along with the 180° line of longitude) divides the Eastern Hemisphere from the Western Hemisphere. (You will learn about longitude lines on pages 34-37.) Trace the prime meridian on the map above. Which three continents does it cross?

1.  
2.  
3.  

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**Map:**
- **North America**
- **Europe**
- **Africa**
- **Asia**
- **Australia**
- **South America**
- **Antarctica**

**Lines:**
- **Equator**
- **Prime Meridian**
Follow the directions to show what you have learned about the world.

2. Find the ocean east of North America. Label it Atlantic Ocean.
3. Find the ocean west of North America. Label it **Pacific Ocean**.
4. Find the United States. Trace its country boundaries in **black**.
5. Find the equator. Trace it in **brown**.
6. Color all the land in the Southern Hemisphere **yellow**.
Getting to Know North America

North America is the third largest continent on Earth. The United States, Canada, and Mexico are the largest countries in North America.

1. Use a **red** crayon to color the United States, including Alaska.

2. Use a **pink** crayon to color the country that borders the United States on the north.

3. Use a **purple** crayon to color the country that borders the United States on the south.

4. Central America is a part of North America. It is made up of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. Use a **yellow** crayon to color the countries of Central America.

5. An island is land that is surrounded by water. North America has many islands, including the world’s largest island—Greenland. Use a **green** crayon to color Greenland.