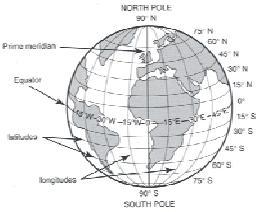
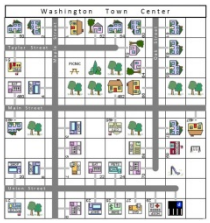
Globe and Map Skills Activity Packet



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Mapping the World

Maps are important tools. They can help us learn about a place. They can help us get from one place to another. They can also be used to find the distance between two places.

Throughout history, humans have had a desire to understand where we are on our planet and to draw or track places in relation to one another. To learn about locations on the Earth, there are two tools you can use: globes and maps.

A **globe** is a model of the planet Earth as if seeing it from outer space. A globe is round and shows the continents and oceans. It is mounted on an axis so that it can be rotated, just like Earth. And since it is round, globes show the actual size of everything without distortion. But globes are hard to carry because they are large and bulky.

A **map** is a model of the Earth shown on a flat surface. It can be drawn as a representation of the entire earth, or parts of the earth like continents, countries, states, cities, or even detailed drawings of your neighborhood. Maps are useful because you can fold them and carry them with you.

Flat maps have a disadvantage in that they cannot accurately show the curved surface of the earth. When a map is drawn, the shape and size of what is drawn can get distorted.

A person who draws a map is called a **cartographer**. Maps have been drawn for centuries, and there are many types of maps, like **political** (showing countries, states, or cities), **physical** (showing mountains and ocean depths), **climatic** (showing the weather) or even **tourist** (showing places to visit) maps.

Name _____

Mapping the World – Reading Response

1. What is a map?

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. Name one advantage and one disadvantage of a map:

Advantage: _____

_____

Disadvantage: _____

_____

3. Name one advantage and one disadvantage of a globe:

Advantage: _____

_____

Disadvantage: _____

_____

Finding Your Way

A map is a tool that can help you find your way. A map shows you where thigs are. You also need to know which direction to go. There are four main directions. They are north, east, south and west. These four are called cardinal directions. A fun way to remember the four directions, in order, is to repeat: **N**ever **E**at **S**oggy **W**affles !

A compass is another tool people use to find their way. A compass is used for showing direction. It has an arrow that always points north. If you face north too, then south is behind you. East would be to your right and west would be to your left. The needle on the compass is magnetized so it always points to the North Pole.

The picture on the left shows a globe. A globe is a model of the Earth.

Read the labels on the globe. The North and South Poles help you tell directions. North is toward the North Pole. South is toward the South Pole. So when you face north, east is to your right and west is to your left.

Suppose you go to a new city on vacation. You have a map. You need to go from your hotel to the zoo. You see both of the places on the map. But which direction should you go? You see on the map the zoo is west of your hotel, but which way is west?

If the sun is shining, you might be able to tell directions from the position of the sun. That is how early explorers found their way. But today, if there is no sun, then using a compass is the only way to know which direction you are going. So, to find the zoo, you would use the map to show you where the zoo is and a compass to show you which direction to go!

Name _____

Finding Your Way – Reading Response

1. What are the four major (or cardinal) directions?

_____

2. What is a compass used for?

_____

_____

3. How does a compass know which way is north?

_____

_____

4. When looking at a map and north is up, which direction is to the right on the map?

_____

5. If you started walking towards the setting sun late in the day, which direction would you be walking? Why?

_____

_____

_____

Fun with Globes

Maps are drawings of places on a flat piece of paper. Sometimes, maps are collected together into a book – this book is called an atlas. Atlases are filled with maps of states and countries. People study maps in an atlas. But flat maps need to be pieced together, or are too hard to read to show the entire world.

What do you call a map that is formed around a ball? It's called a globe! Most classrooms have a globe. A globe is a map of the Earth – in the same shape as the Earth!

When you look at a globe, you can spin it around. Just like the Earth, a globe spins on an axis. At the top of the axis, and the top of the globe, is the North Pole. The bottom of the globe is the South Pole. As you spin the globe around, you can see all of the countries in the world. Can you find your home country on the globe?

If you take a closer look at the globe, you will see lots of lines. If you were to fly around the world in a plane and look down, you would not see those lines. So why are those lines on the globe? They tell us things about the world and help us locate places.

The Earth is a ball, or sphere. Halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole is an imaginary line we call the equator. The equator goes around the middle of the Earth like a belt. It divides the Earth into two parts – the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere. There are lines that also run in an east-west direction parallel to the equator – these are called latitude. There are also lines that run in a north-south direction. The north-south lines are called longitude. Together, the latitude and longitude lines criss-cross the globe. They look like squares! What else can you find on a globe?

Name _____

Fun with Globes – Reading Response

1. What do we call a book of maps?

_____

2. What is the line that divides the world into two halves?

_____

3. The Earth spins on its:

_____

4. What are the lines that run east-west around the world called?

_____

5. What are the lines that run north-south around the world called?

_____

6. Find your home country on a globe. What hemisphere is your home country in?

_____

7. What is the name of the country that is on the opposite side of the globe from your home country? How did you locate this?

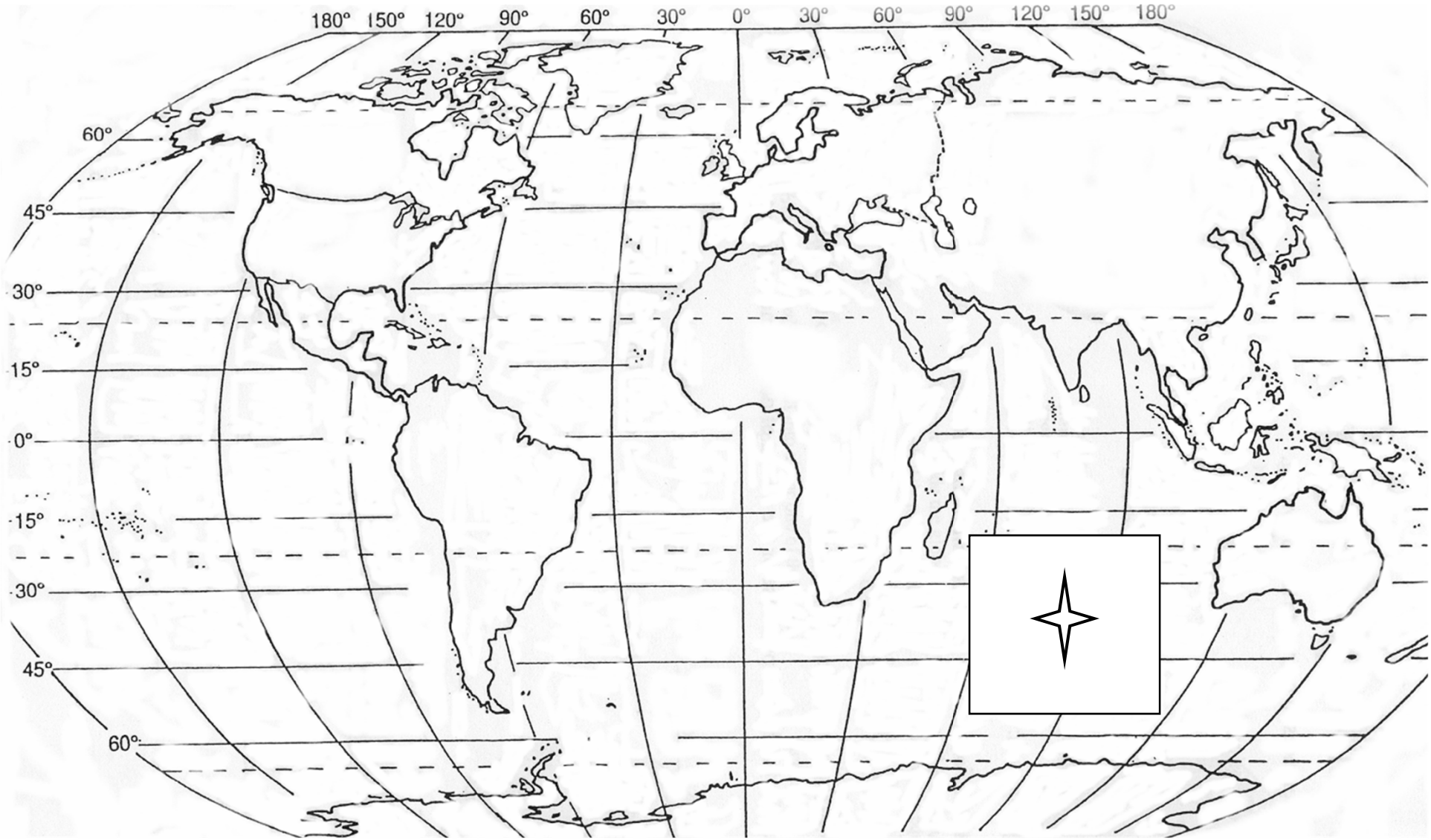
_____

_____

Name _____

Map Exercise: The United States in the World

Use a globe, atlas or other maps as reference to complete the following:



Map Exercise: The United States In The World

Use the larger map to answer the following questions:

1. Label the continents on the map by placing the letter of the continent in the correct area:

A. North America **B.** South America **C.** Europe **D.** Africa
E. Antarctica **F.** Australia **G.** Asia

2. Label the following lines on the map:

Equator **Prime Meridian**

3. Label the following oceans on the map:

Pacific Ocean **Atlantic Ocean** **Indian Ocean** **Arctic Ocean**

4. Lab the compass rose on the map with the following directions:

North **South** **East** **West**

5. Label the following countries on the map:

United States of America **Mexico** **Canada**

Drawing Maps

Have you ever been in an airplane? Did you look down on Earth? Then you know that things look different from above.

The photo on the left was taken from an airplane. It shows a community below. There are streets, houses, grass and trees.

The map on the left shows the same place as the photo. So a map is a drawing of a place from above. A map shows where things are.

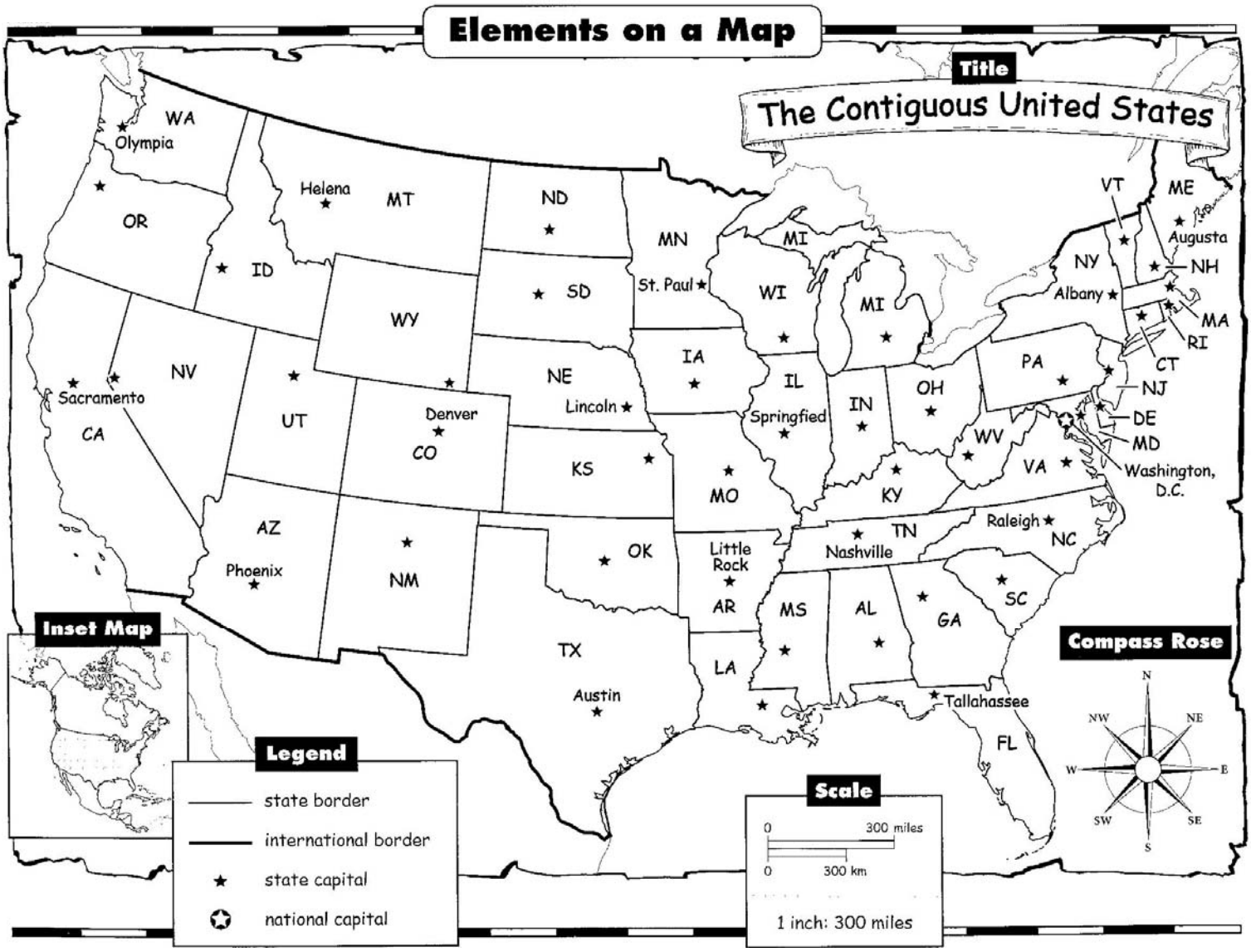
Flat maps have a disadvantage in that they cannot accurately show the curved surface of the earth. When a map is drawn, the shape and size of what is drawn gets a little distorted, usually on the edges. But this is only important if you are using a map to scale or measure things or distances.

Maps can be fun to draw. You can use them to give people directions to your house or to show special features. There are maps of cities and towns, roadways, train routes, countries, and even maps of the world! Maps can not only show where cities or countries are, but can also be drawn to show physical features (mountains and lakes), weather or climate, population, roads, economics, natural resources. There are even maps of places such as Disney World!

Parts of a Map

Maps usually have six important elements:

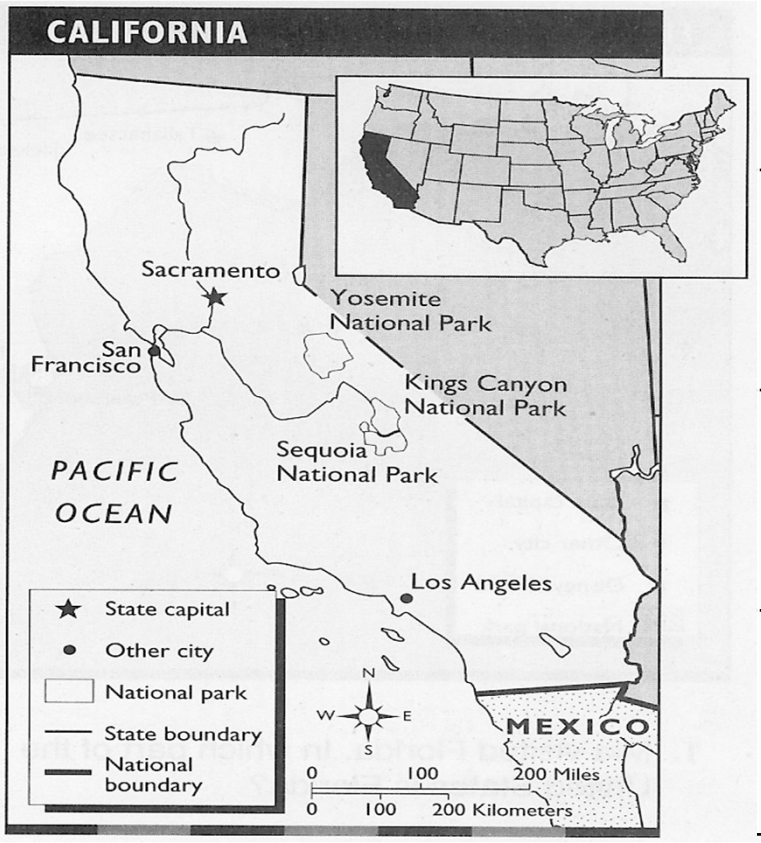
1. The **Map** – could be a city, state, country, continent or the world
2. The **Title** – tells you the purpose of the map
3. The **Legend** – the key to what the symbols on the map mean.
4. The **Compass Rose** – a directional arrow that shows the cardinal points on the map.
5. The **Scale** – shows the distance between objects on the map, sometimes in both standard and metric measurements.
6. The **Inset Map** – a smaller map that can show a larger area around the map to give it context.



Name _____

Identify Parts of a Map

Answer the questions regarding the map below:



1. What is the title of this map?

_____

2. What is the symbol for the state capital?

_____

3. What is the name of the state capital?

_____

4. Name one of the National parks in California:

_____

5. What direction is Mexico from California?

_____

6. About how many miles is it from San Francisco to Los Angeles?

_____

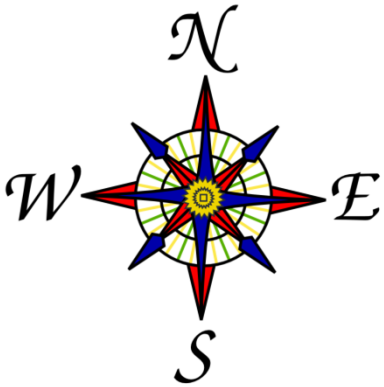
7. What does the "inset map" show?

_____

8. What is the name of the city that is furthest to the south on the map?

_____

The Compass Rose

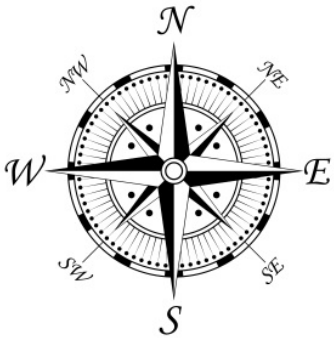


Most maps are drawn with the north direction being up. But just to be sure, almost every map includes a directional set of arrows, called a **compass rose**. The basic compass rose consists of the four main, or cardinal directions of north, east, south and west.

The compass rose gets its name from the flower, as many older compass roses were drawn with points that looked like rose petals.

HOUSE PLAN

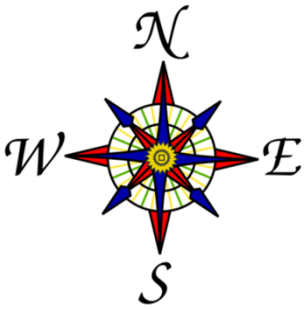
On some maps, north is not towards the top of the map. This might be done for a smaller, detailed map, like a drawing of your house and your yard. In order to show the house straight on the paper, north might be angled, and not straight up. In this case, the compass rose is turned, or rotated, in order to show which direction on the map north is pointing. By looking at this drawing, you now know that **true north** is actually a little rotated to the left, not straight up.



Some compass roses also include more detailed directions. Not everything is exactly north, south, east or west from each other. So we need to use directions that are in between the cardinal points. On a more detailed compass rose, directions of northeast, southeast, southwest and northwest are used. These are called intermediate directions. As an example, the direction northeast is half way between north and east.

Name _____

The Compass Rose – Reading Response



Read "The Compass Rose" to answer the following questions:

1. Why is it called a Compass Rose

_____

2. On a compass, the letter W stand for what?

_____

3. On a map, is north always straight up? Why or why not?

_____

_____

_____

4. What is the detailed direction half-way between south and east called?

_____

5. Why might a map be drawn where north is not straight up?

_____

_____

_____

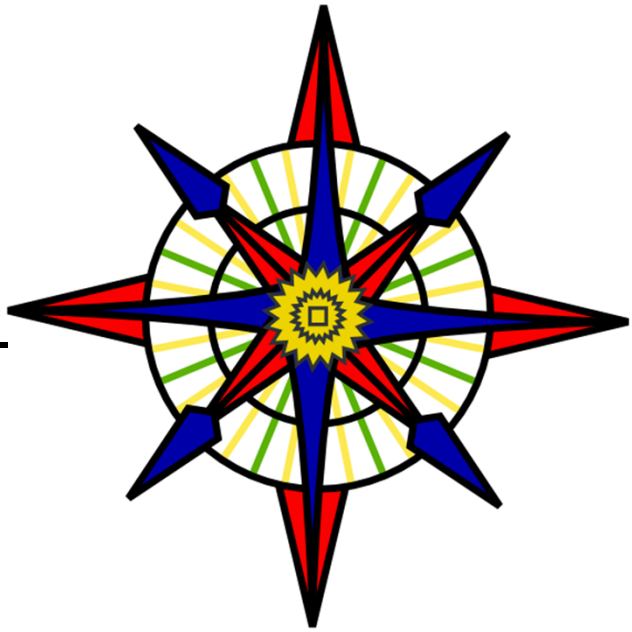
Name _____

Compass Directions

Use the code to find the words on the compass below:

_ _ _ _ _
? & ^ # !

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
{ $ % # $ * % #



_ _ _ _ _
% & @ # !

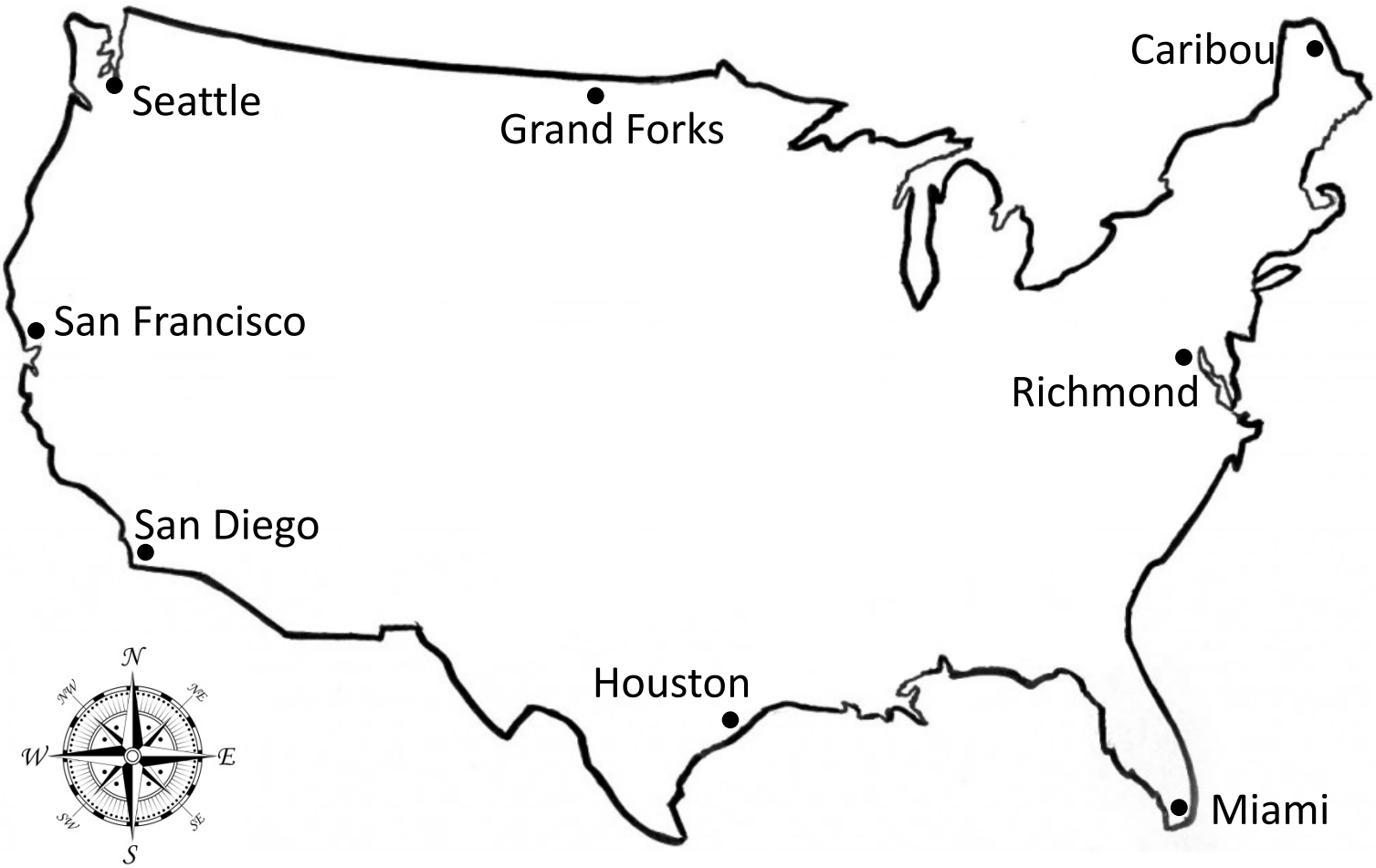
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
*	♋	♌	♍	$	⌛	♑	!	♒	♐	♒	●	❍

n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
?	&	◘	❑	^	%	#	@	❖	{	}	⌂	⌘

Name _____

Map Locations

Use the map to give the best answers to the questions below:



1. What city is in the North?

_____

2. What city is in the West?

_____

3. What city is in the South?

_____

4. What city is in the East?

_____

5. What city is in the Northeast?

_____

6. What city is in the Southeast?

_____

7. What city is in the Southwest?

_____

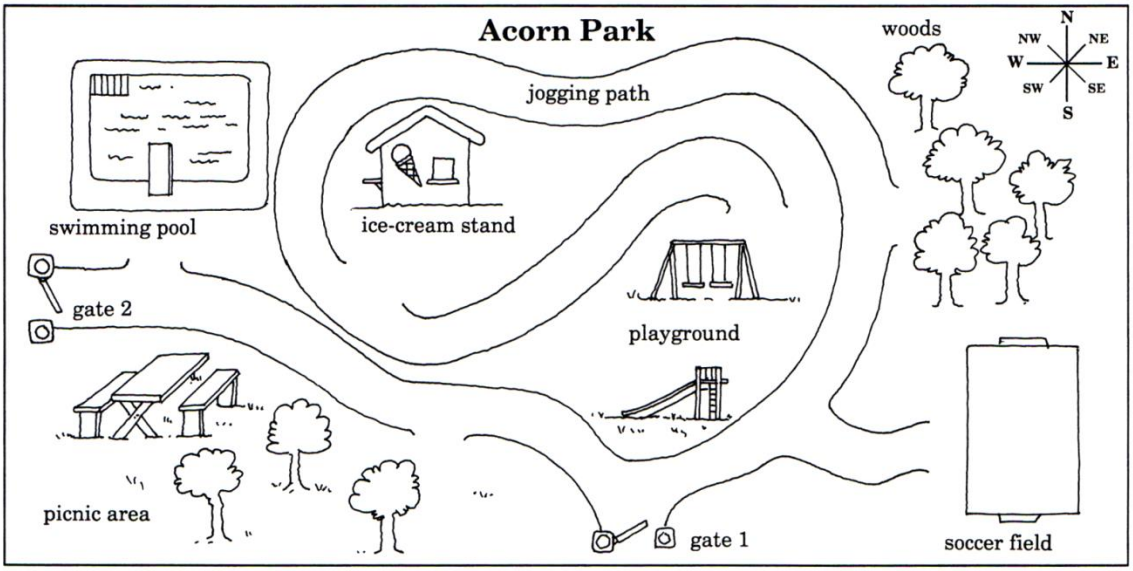
8. What city is in the Northwest?

_____

Name _____

Giving Directions

You can give north, east, south and west directions to somebody in order to help them find the way to get from one place to another. For example, in the map below of Acorn Park, if somebody was entering from gate 2, if they wanted to get to the woods, you would tell them to travel East past gate 1, then turn to the north to find the woods:



Write the directions to give for someone entering gate 1 who wants to get to the swingset. They must travel around the jogging path, past the ice cream stand, to get to the playground:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

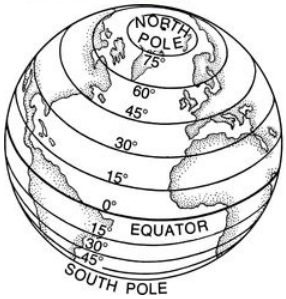
_____

_____

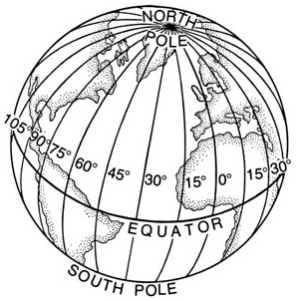
_____

Latitude and Longitude

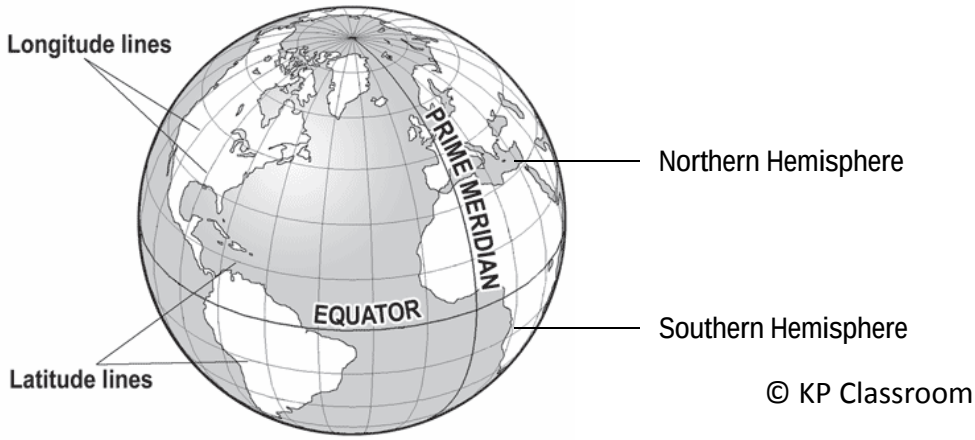
There are grid lines that have been developed that cover the entire earth. These aren't actual lines, they are imaginary. But they serve a great purpose in helping to identify any spot on the earth.



Latitude – lines that go east and west around the globe. These lines are parallel to each other. Latitude is measured both north and south of the **Equator**. The equator is located at 0° latitude. North latitudes extend from 0° to 90°N, which is the North Pole. The north half of the earth is called the Northern Hemisphere. South latitudes extend south from the equator, from 0° to 90°S, which is the South Pole. The south half of the earth is called the Southern Hemisphere.



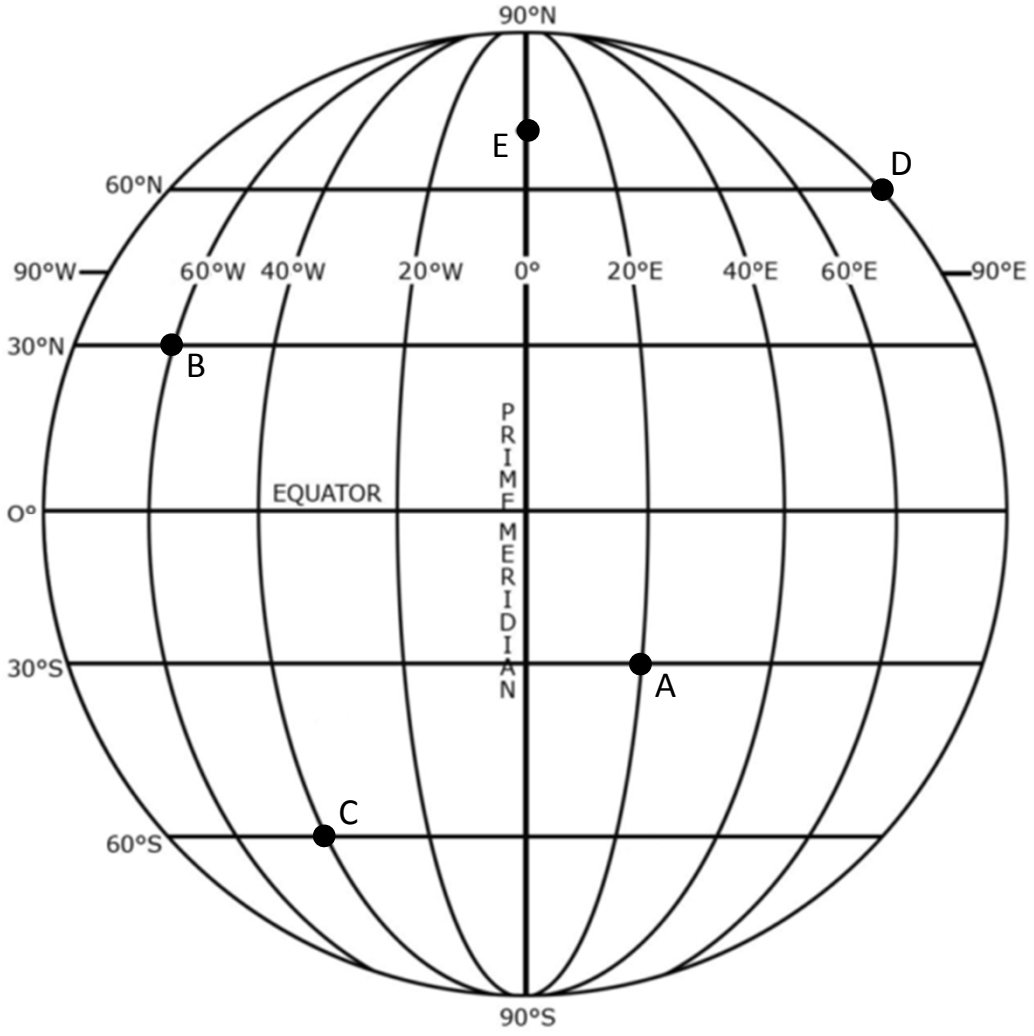
Longitude – lines that go north and south around the globe. These lines are parallel to each other. Longitude is measured both east and west of the **Prime Meridian**, which goes through Greenwich, England, near London. The prime meridian is located at 0° longitude. East longitudes extend east from 0° to 180°, which is the International Date Line. West longitudes extend west from the prime meridian, from 0° to 180°.



Name _____

Latitude and Longitude

To read longitude and latitude lines on a globe or map, you first find the latitude line, then the longitude line. For example, point A on the globe below would be found at 30°S latitude, 20°E longitude. We write this as 30° S, 20° E.



What is the latitude and longitude of point B? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of point C? _____

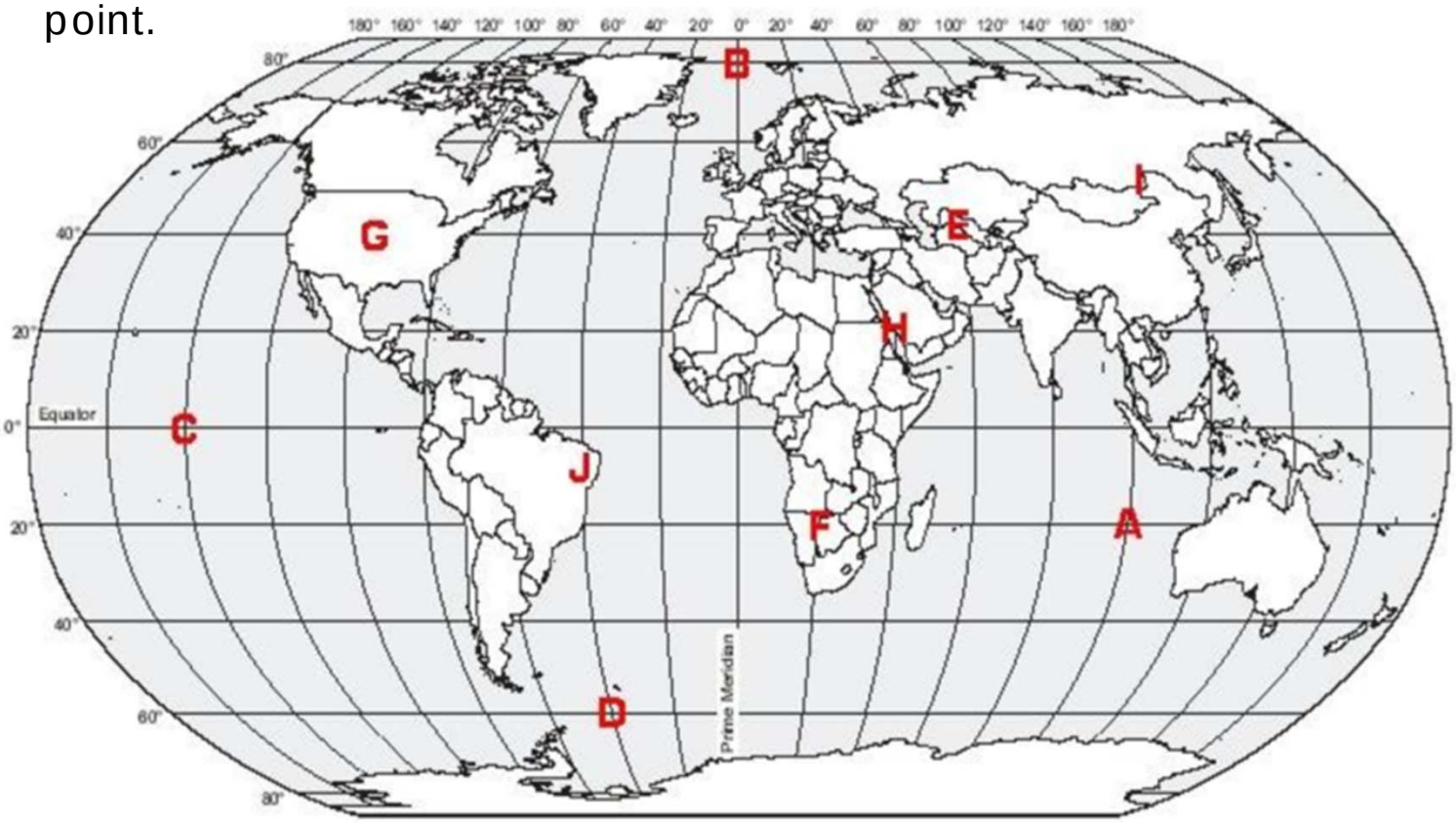
What is the latitude and longitude of point D? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of point E? _____

Name _____

Latitude and Longitude

The latitude and longitude lines cover the entire Earth. Below is a map of the world. Write the latitude and longitude lines for each point.



What is the latitude and longitude of Point A? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point B? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point C? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point D? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point E? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point F? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point G? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point H? _____

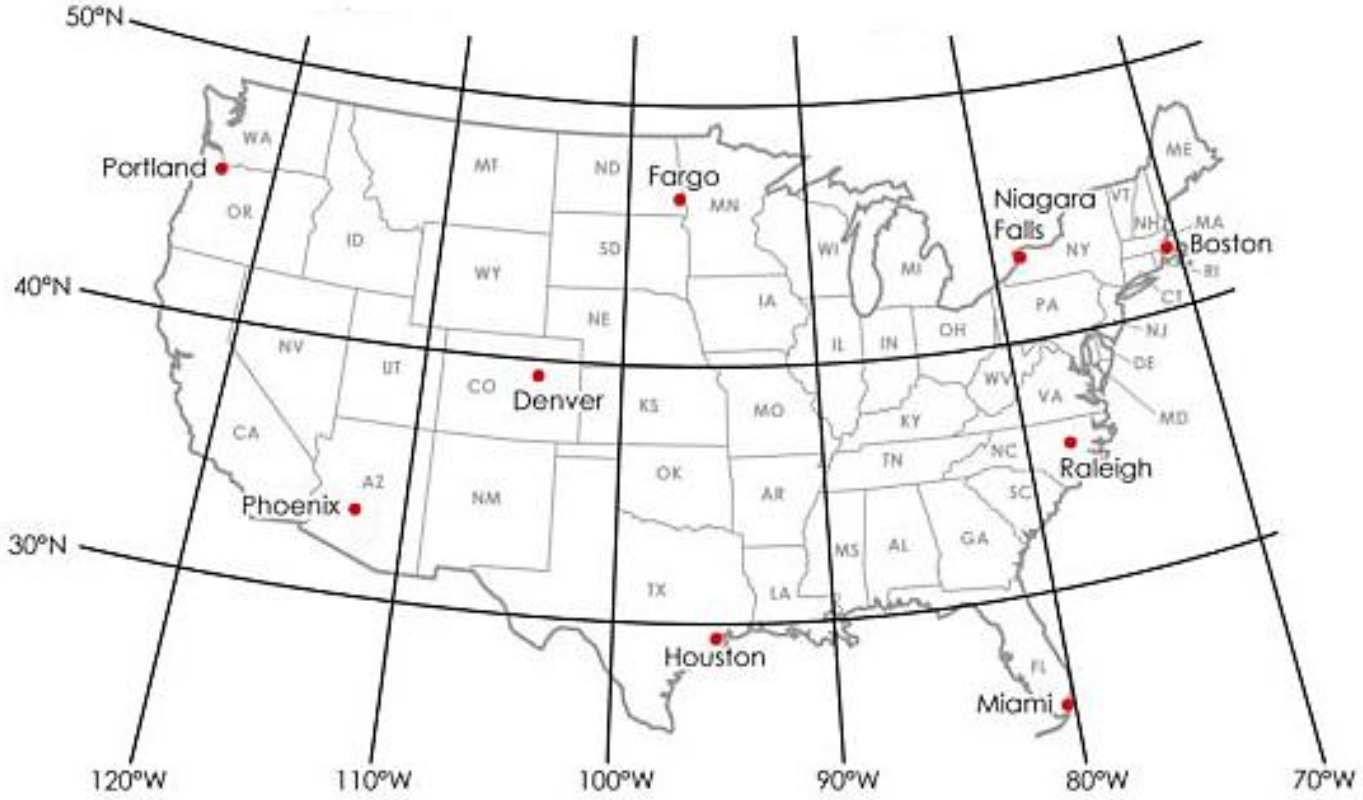
What is the latitude and longitude of Point I? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Point J? _____

Name _____

Latitude and Longitude

The latitude and longitude lines can cover any particular area of the world. If you are trying to locate a spot somewhere between the main lines, you estimate how far between the lines the spot is, then use an approximate number depending on how close to one line or the other the spot is. For example, in the map of the United States below, Niagara Falls would be at 43°N , 79°W.



What is the latitude and longitude of Fargo? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Portland? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Phoenix? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Denver? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Houston? _____

What is the latitude and longitude of Miami? _____

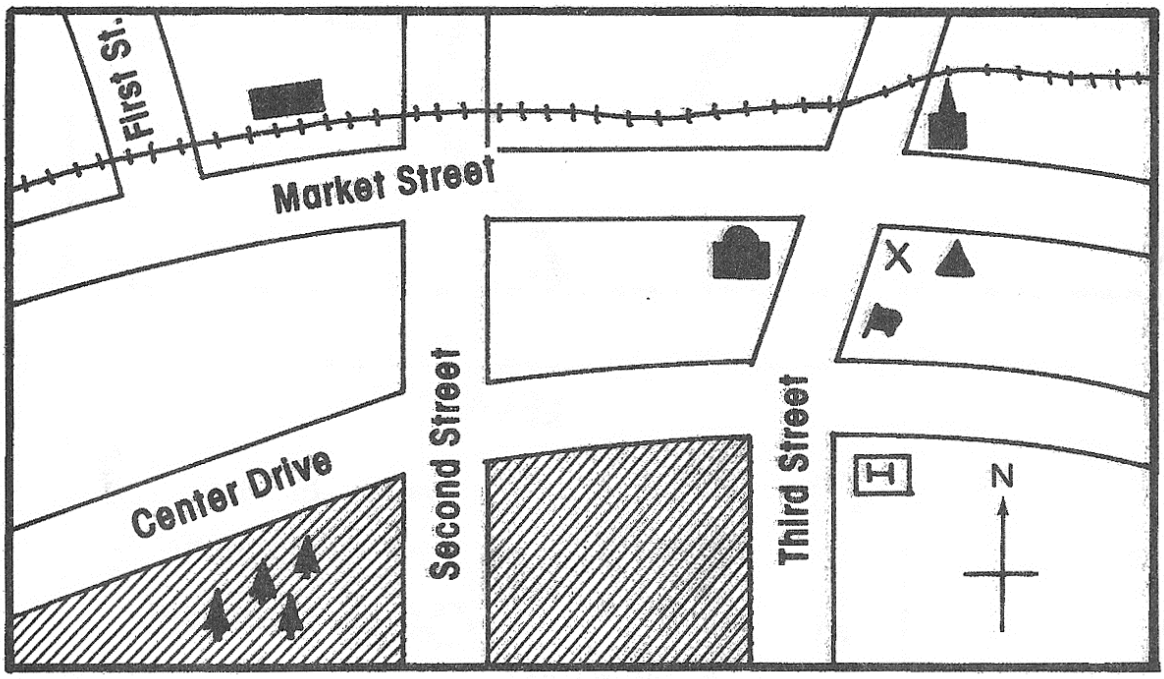
What is the latitude and longitude of Raleigh? _____

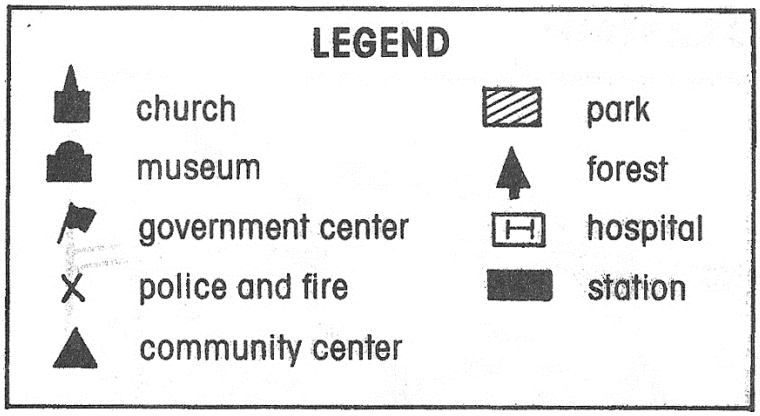
What is the latitude and longitude of Boston? _____

Name _____

Legend

Many maps include a key, or legend. A legend is used so that symbols can be put on a map to show special features or places.





On the map above, write the name of each special place next to its symbol according to the legend:

church	**museum**	**government center**
park	**forest**	**police and fire**
hospital	**station**	**community center**

Name _____

The Map Grid

On many maps, a grid of lines is overlaid on the map. This is called a map grid. The lines can help to locate places on a map. Along the top and one side of the map are letters and numbers that identify the grid lines.

In the example above, the school is found at grid A,3 and the Police Station is found at grid D,4.

At what grid is the Post Office found: _____

At what grid is the Library found: _____

Why do you think it might be important to have a map grid on a map?

_____

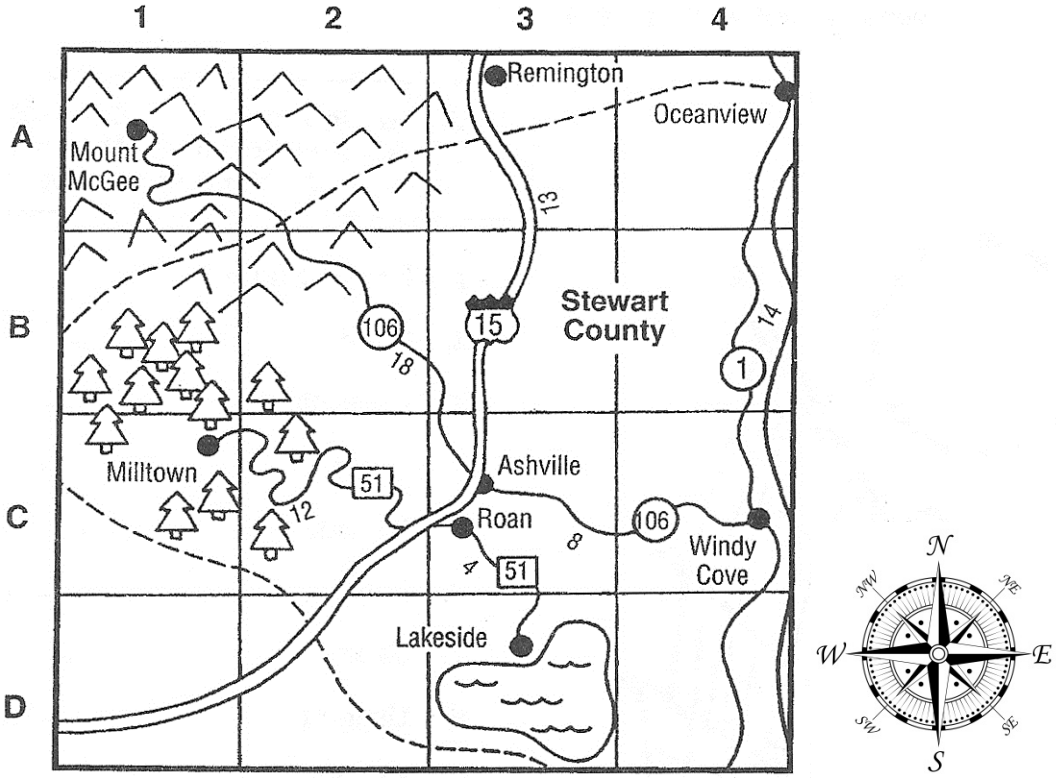
_____

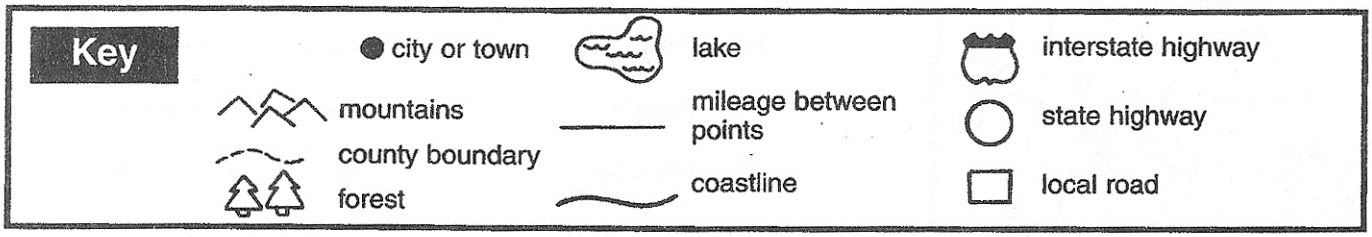
_____

Name _____

Roadmap Directions

Many maps are drawn of parts of cities, towns or states in order to show roads and distances to travel from one place to another.





1. How many miles is it between Lakeside and Roan?

_____

2. What direction would you go to drive from Ashville to Windy Cove?

_____

3. What state highway number would you take to drive from Windy Cove to Oceanview?

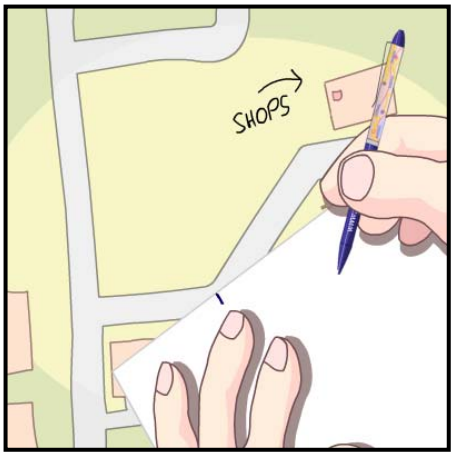
_____

4. How many miles is it between Roan and Milltown?

_____

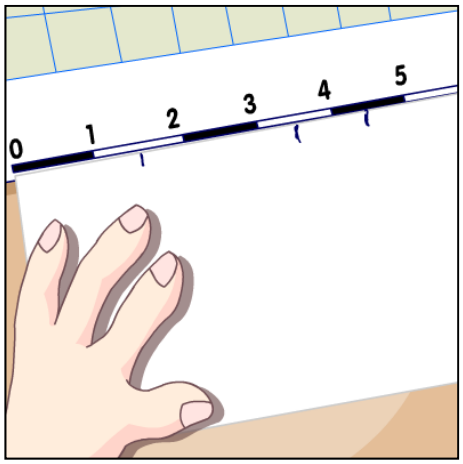
Measuring on Maps

Another method of measuring distance is to take a sheet of paper and place the corner of a straight edge on your starting point. Now pivot the paper until the edge follows the route that you want to take.



Step 1
Every time the route disappears or moves away from the straight edge of your paper, make a small mark on the edge and pivot the paper so the edge is back on course.

Step 2
Repeat this process until you reach your destination.

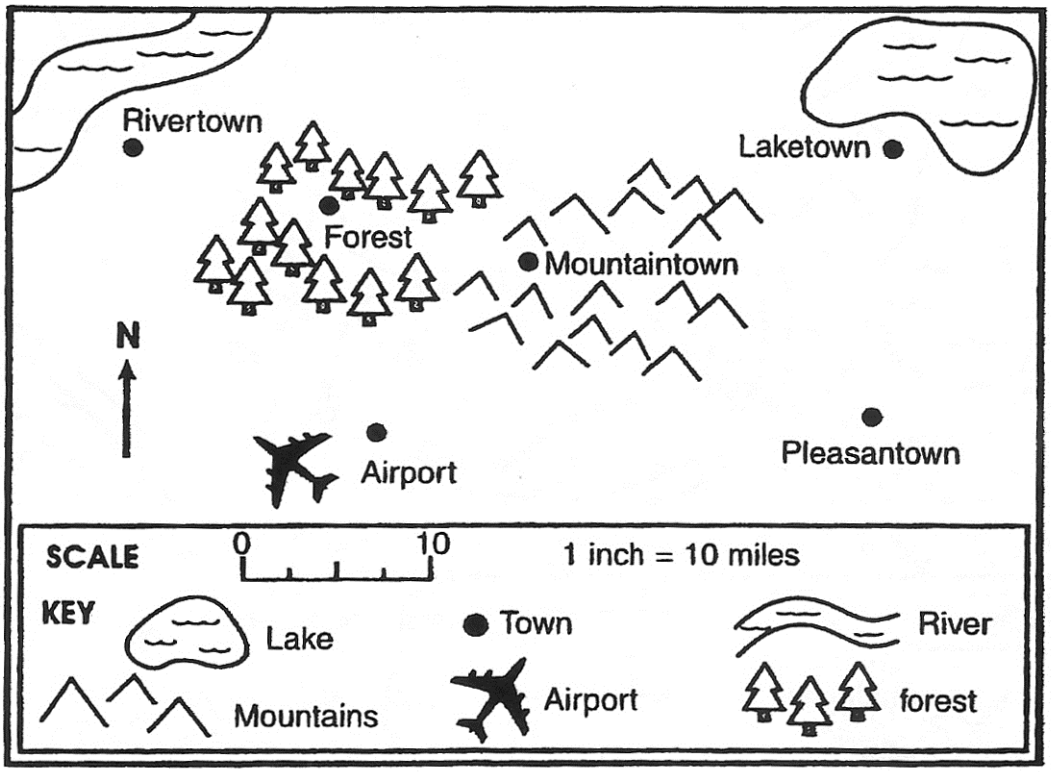


Step 3
You should be left with a series of marks along the edge of your paper. You can now place the sheet against the scale bar on your map.
The last mark you made will tell you the real distance you need to travel .

Name _____

How To Measure

Most maps include a scale. The scale tells you in actual dimensions how far apart things are. In the example below, a scale is given where 1 inch on the map is equal to 10 actual miles. The Forest is then approximately 10 miles from the town of Rivertown. You can use a ruler or a piece of paper to help measure distances on a map.



How far is it from the Forest to Mountaintown? _____

How far is it from Mountaintown to the Airport? _____

How far is it from the Airport to Pleasantown? _____

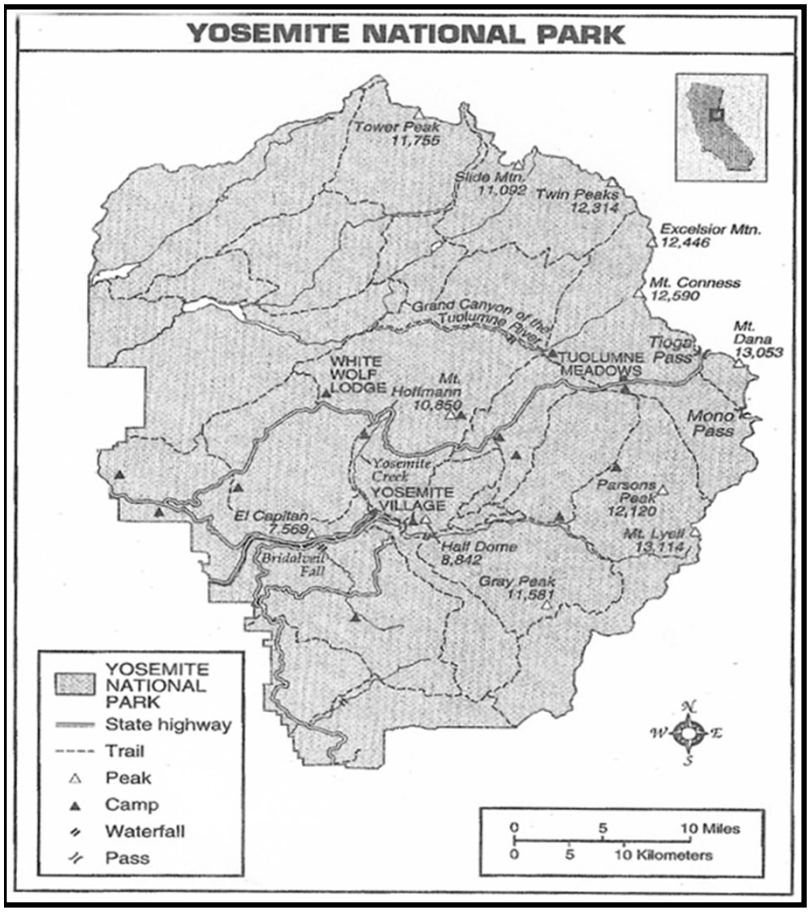
How far is it from Pleasantown to Laketown? _____

How far is it from Laketown to Rivertown? _____

Name _____

Map Skills Worksheet

Answer the questions regarding the given map.



1. What is the title of the map?

_____

2. About how many miles is it from Tioga Pass to Tuolumne Meadows?

_____

3. In what direction would you be traveling if you started at Mono Pass and went to White Wolf Lodge?

_____

4. Draw the pattern that is used to show the following information:

a. Peak: **c: Trail**

b. Pass: **d: Camp:**

_____

5. What is the name of the highest mountain peak on the map?

_____

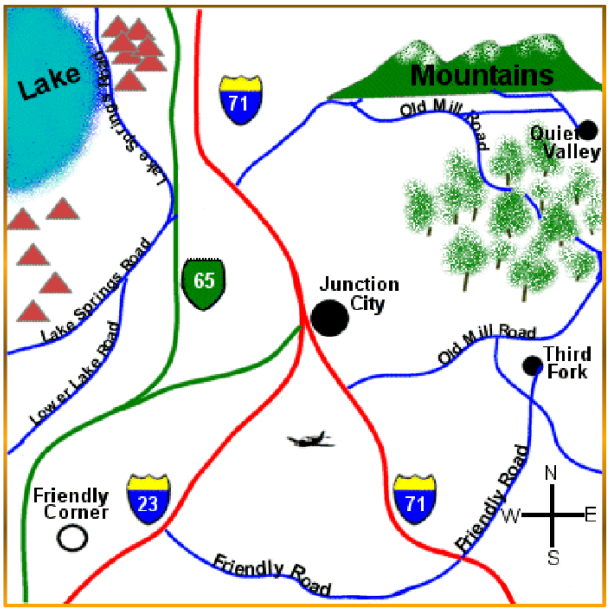
6. How many campsites are west of El Capitan?

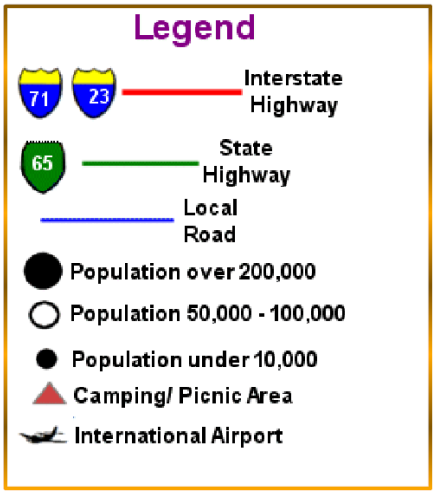
_____

Name _____

Map Skills Worksheet

Answer the questions regarding the given map.





1. What is the name of the city that has a population over 200,000?

_____

2. What direction are the mountains from Third Fork?

_____

3. Label the International Airport on the map above. What city is it closest to?

_____

4. How many Camping/Picnic areas are there on the map?

_____

5. What is the number of the State Highway that is closest to the Lake?

_____

Name _____

Maps Vocabulary

Write down 4 words you learned and define them.

1. _____

_____

_____

_____

2. _____

_____

_____

_____

3. _____

_____

_____

_____

4. _____

_____

_____

_____

Name _____

Map of Your Neighborhood

Draw a map of your neighborhood. Include symbols on your map. Label where your house is located. Include a map title and legend. Also try and identify a scale and a compass rose.

Name _____

Map of Your Classroom

Draw a map of your classroom. Include symbols on your map. Label where your seat is located. Include a map title and legend. Also try and identify a scale and a compass rose.

Name _____

Getting from Here to There

Imagine that you are lost in the middle of New York City. You have a map, but you don't know where you are. How can you use your map to figure out where you are? List as many ideas as you can:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Town Center Map

Use this map for the activities on the following pages:

Scale:

= 200 feet

Name _____

Map Activity - Symbols

Use the Town Center Map to answer the following questions:

1. What is the name of the map?

_____

2. How long is one grid on the map?

_____

3. How many houses are on the map?

_____

4. How many streets are on the map?

_____

5. What street is the Picnic Table closest to?

_____

6. What is across the street from the Bank?

_____

7. What is to the East of the Hospital?

_____

8. What is to the South of the School?

_____

Name _____

Map Activity - Streets

Use the Town Center Map to answer the following questions:

1. What street is the School on?

_____

2. What street is the Fire Station on?

_____

3. What street is the Police Station on?

_____

4. Name two streets that have gas stations:

_____

5. What street runs in an east-west direction across the town?

_____

6. What street runs in a north-south direction across the town?

_____

7. How many houses are on Oak Street?

_____

8. What do you find at 24 Union Street?

_____

Name _____

Map Activity - Directions

Use the Town Center Map to answer the following questions. Follow the directions and write the answer on the line provided:

1. Begin at the house at 61 Oak Street. Go South on Oak Street for 800 feet. Turn West onto Main Street. Go West on Main Street for 1,000 feet. Turn South onto Maple Street. Go South on Maple Street for 600 feet. What is located on the East side of the street?

_____

2. Begin at the house at 52 Taylor Street. Go West on Taylor Street to Maple Street. Turn left on Maple Street. Go South on Maple Street for 600 feet. What direction will you now head to go to the Restaurant at 480 Main Street?

_____

3. You are having breakfast at the Restaurant at 5 Maple Street. You go North on Maple Street for 400 feet. You then go East on Main Street for 1,000 feet. You then go south on Oak Street for 400 feet. What is on your left as you are facing South?

_____

4. You leave the Shop at 20 Union Street. You go East on Union Street for 400 feet. You then go North on Maple Street for 800 feet. You then go East on Main Street to Oak Street. You turn left on Oak Street and go North for 400 feet. What is the house number on the West side of the street?

_____

5. Begin at the house at 1 Maple Street. Go South on Maple Street, then East on Union Street. If you travel a total of 2,600 feet, what is your destination on the South side of the street?

_____

Name _____

Map Activity - Distances

Use the Town Center Map to answer the following questions. Figure out the quickest route following the streets between the two buildings then measure the distance along that route:

1. Write the total distance to drive from the Police Station at 21 Union Street to the Hospital at 29 Union Street:

_____

2. Write the total distance to drive from the house at 1 Maple Street to the Bank at 25 Union Street:

_____

3. Write the total distance to drive from the Fire Station at 51 Taylor Street to the house at 60 Oak Street:

_____

4. Write the total distance to drive from the house at 483 Main Street to the School at 69 Oak Street:

_____

5. Write the total distance to drive from the house at 2 Maple Street to the house at 67 Oak Street:

_____

6. Write the total distance to drive from the house at 54 Taylor Street to the Shop at 20 Union Street:

Name _____

Maps: Draw 4 Things

Draw four small maps of different things. Add a title for each map.

#1 _____	#2 _____
#3 _____	#4 _____

Name _____

Map Skills Word Search

T	H	O	H	J	E	A	S	T	O	D
Z	S	K	A	T	M	L	S	X	T	N
A	A	E	P	L	U	A	A	M	S	E
R	K	Y	W	U	E	O	P	B	A	G
N	O	R	T	H	W	E	S	T	E	E
Q	O	N	T	I	T	L	E	B	H	L
U	M	R	A	S	C	A	L	E	T	G
S	O	U	T	H	W	E	S	T	U	E
N	C	H	I	H	S	Y	M	B	O	L
E	L	N	C	O	M	P	A	S	S	E

Words can be found forward, up, down or diagonal

NORTH	NORTHEAST
SOUTH	SOUTHEAST
EAST	NORTHWEST
WEST	SOUTHWEST
COMPASS	SCALE
LABEL	SYMBOL
LEGEND	TITLE
KEY	MAP

Map Vocabulary Cards

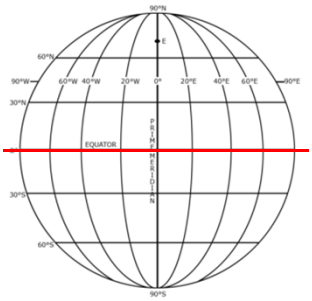
Front

Globe

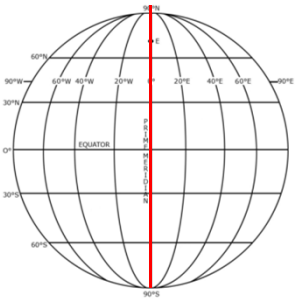
World Map

Latitude

Longitude



Equator



Prime Meridian

Northern Hemisphere

Southern Hemisphere

Map Vocabulary Cards

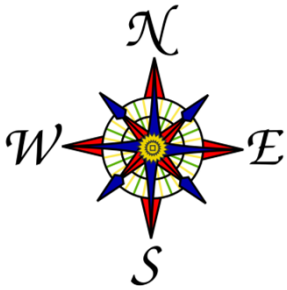
Back

World Map	A flat drawing of the world.	A small representation of the earth in the shape of a sphere.	Globe
Longitude	North-south imaginary lines around the globe used to locate points.	East-west imaginary lines around the globe used to located points.	Latitude
Prime Meridian	The north-south longitude line that runs through Greenwich, England and is at 0°.	The middle of the earth running in an east-west direction, at 0° latitude.	Equator
Southern Hemisphere	The bottom half of the earth, below the equator.	The top half of the earth, above the equator.	Northern Hemisphere

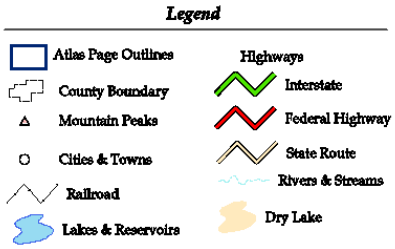
Map Vocabulary Cards

Front

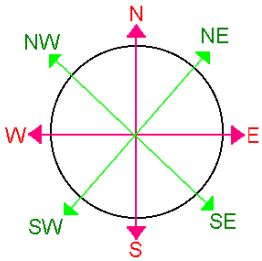
Compass Rose



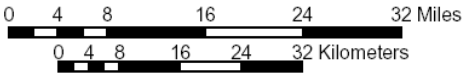
Cardinal Points



Legend



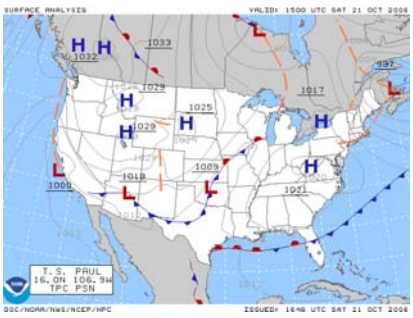
Intermediate Points



Scale

Cartography

Road Map



Weather Map

Map Vocabulary Cards

Back

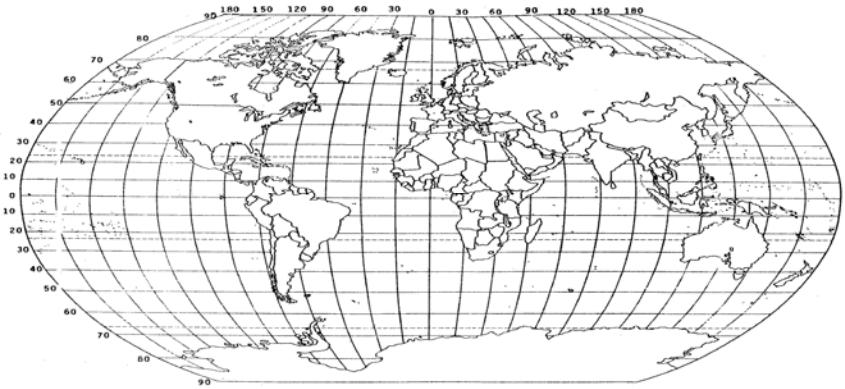
Cardinal Points	The main directions of north, east, south and west.	A symbol that shows you the directions on a map.	Compass Rose
Intermediate Points	Directions that fall in the middle between the cardinal points, such as northeast.	A list of shapes and symbols used on a map.	Legend
Cartography	The science of drawing maps.	A small ruler on a map to show the real life distances on a map.	Scale
Weather Map	A map used to show weather forecasts.	A map showing streets and highways.	Road Map

Name _____

Map ABC Order

Write the vocabulary words in alphabetical order

north	1.
east	2.
south	3.
west	4.
compass	5.
scale	6.
map	7.
title	8.
symbol	9.
legend	10.
label	11.
key	12.
globe	13.
equator	14.
longitude	15.
latitude	16.



Name _____

Map Words and Sentences

compass	key	legend	south
east	label	map	symbol
equator	latitude	north	title
globe	longitude	scale	west

Use 2 of the words in a sentence:

_____

_____

_____

Now use 2 other words in a sentence:

_____

_____

_____

Illustrate one of your sentences:

Name _____

Map Word Scramble

Unscramble the letters and write the map word on the line provided. Refer to the word list for help.

compass
globe
latitude
legend
longitude
scale
symbol
title

ceasl

_____

mapscso

_____

ieltt

_____

eolbg

_____

oylbms

_____

gneeld

_____

tidneugol

_____

tiduaelt

_____

Name _____

Map Syllables

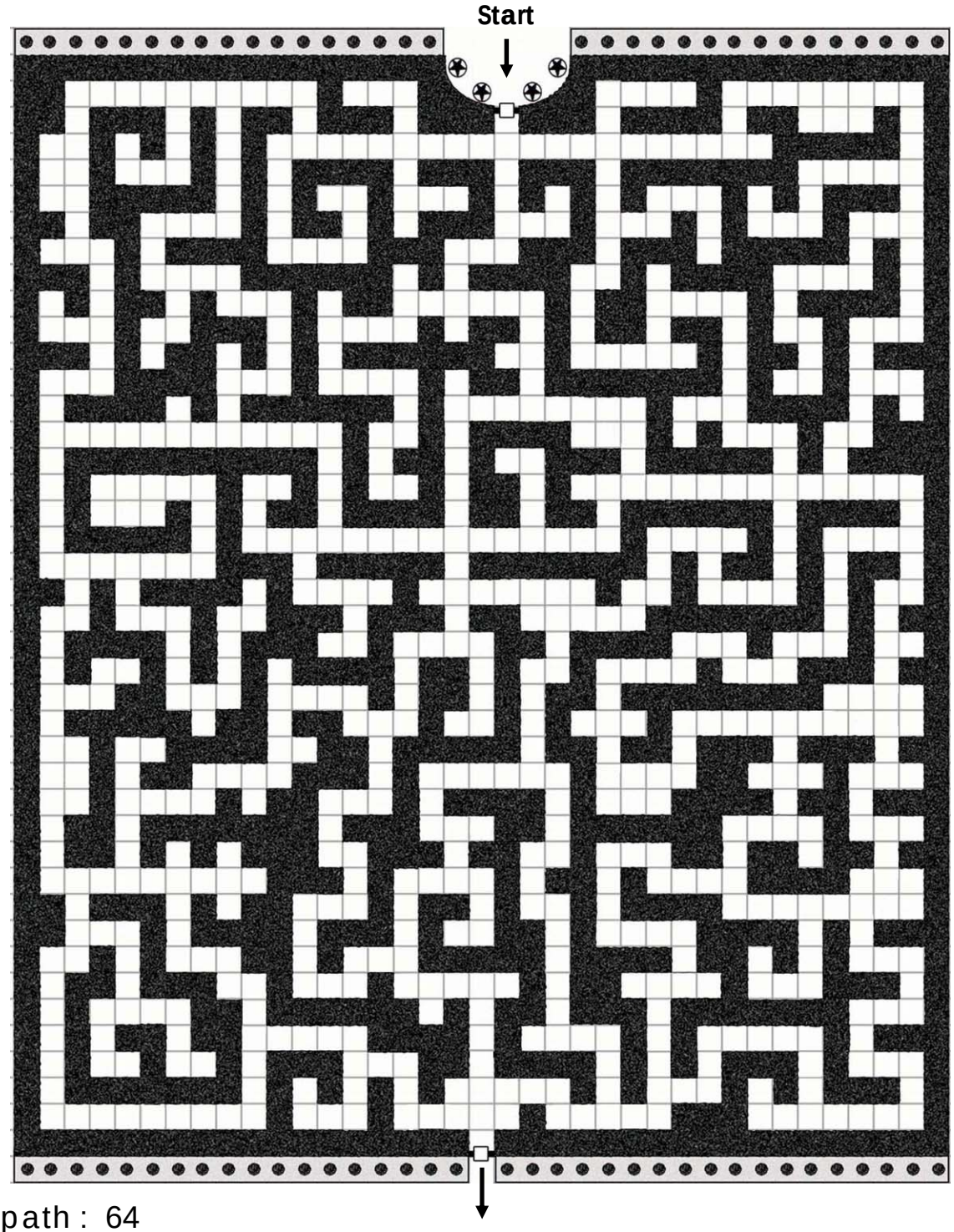
For each map word, write the number of syllables in the word, then write the name divided into syllables:

	Number of Syllables	Divide into Syllables
1. equator	3	e-qua-tor
2. cartography		
3. cardinal		
4. hemisphere		
5. compass		
6. symbol		
7. meridian		
8. legend		
9. latitude		
10. longitude		

Name _____

Measure Maze

Welcome to the Measure Maze. Find the quickest path through the maze. There is more than one way through. Draw one continuous line for your path. You can only go up, down, left or right – no diagonals. Once complete, count how many blocks were traveled.



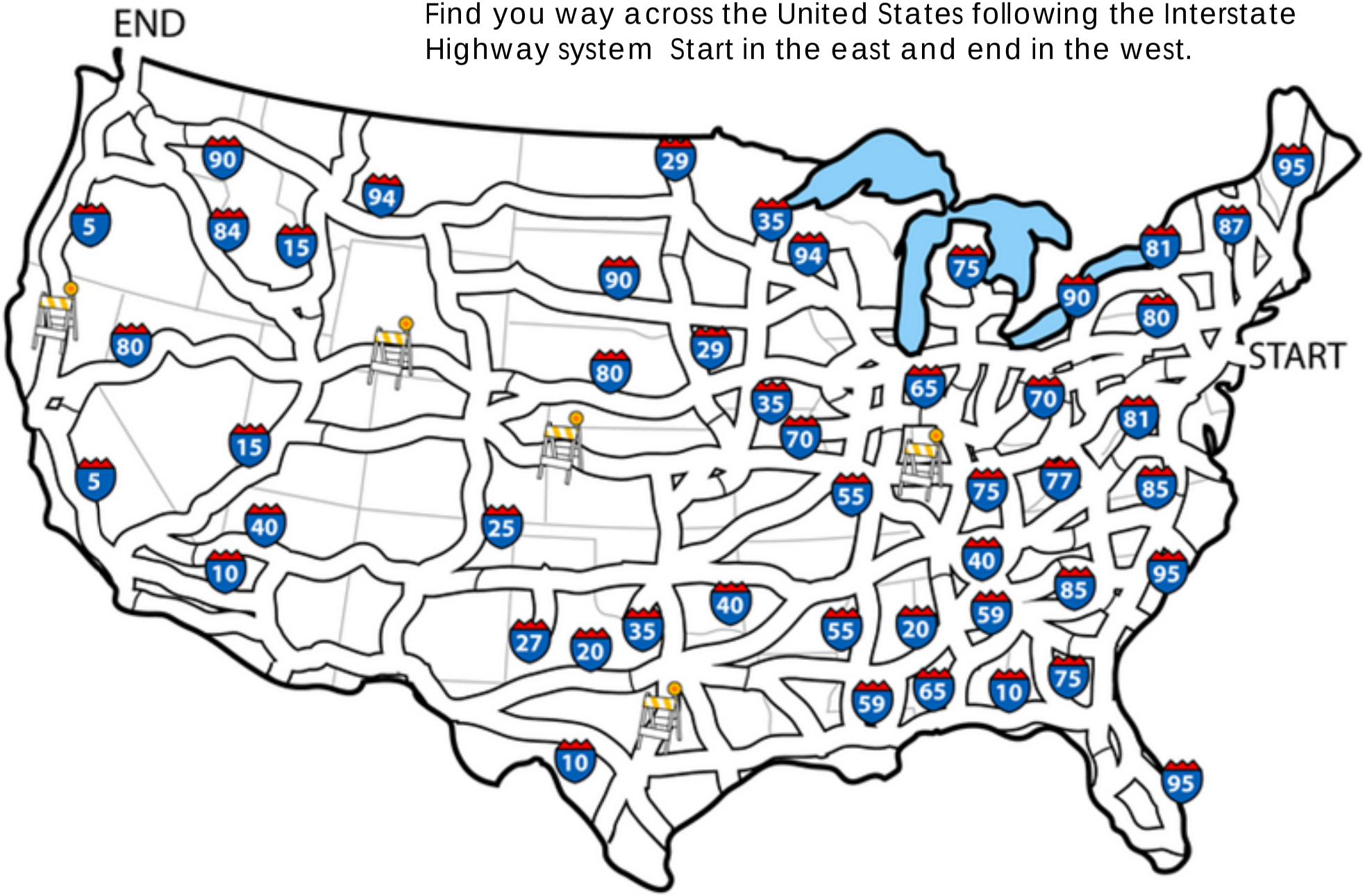
Best path : 64
Very good: 65-74
Good path: 75-100

Total blocks traveled: _____

Name _____

U.S.A. Interstate Road Map Maze

Find you way across the United States following the Interstate Highway system Start in the east and end in the west.



Cartographer Application

Name: _____

Age: _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Why do you want to be an cartographer?

_____

_____

_____

_____

What kind of maps would you like to draw and why?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Name _____

Maps KWL Grid

K	What I already knew	
W	What I still want to know	
L	What I have learned	

Thank you!

Thank you again so much for downloading this resource. (And you don't have to print this page either – you know – to save paper and ink …)

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