



TOPIC NAVIGATOR



GEOGRAPHY

YEAR 3



DISCOVERING MAPS

KEY FACTS

- The word aerial means from above. When we look at something from above we call this an 'aerial view' or a 'birds eye view'. Often images can be taken from a plane or satellite. Maps are drawn from above.
- Compasses can be used to find direction. They help us to identify which direction is North. A compass has four main points; north, south, east and west. We can take bearings with a compass to help us find our way.
- Maps are diagrams or pictures that represent a specific area of land or sea. They show features such as rivers, lakes, roads, mountains, oceans and cities. Scales on maps can be very different, some showing the whole world, others showing a local area in more detail.
- Maps can help us find our way and enable us to follow a route. We can check our location from the geographical features shown on a map.
- Maps often have a title, labels and symbols. Maps often have a key which explains any symbols. Maps often have a compass showing north, south, east and west.
- Maps often have grid references which help us to locate specific landmarks or areas on a map. They might help us to identify what is in an area or the start and end of a journey.
- In London we can use a Tube map to help us find our way around the Underground system.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM AIMS

Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.

Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area

TOPIC VOCABULARY

Map – A drawing of a town, a country or the world. Maps show you where roads, mountains and rivers are

Globe – A ball/sphere with a map of the whole world on it

Atlas – A book of maps

Locate – To find something

Plan – a scale drawing of a building or area

Aerial photograph – A photograph from above

Landmark - an important building or feature on a map

Local area – the area nearest to us

Model – A 3D representation

Route – the direction you go on a journey

Symbol – a picture that stands for something

Key – a list of symbols on a map

Grid reference – using a grid reference helps to locate a feature on a map

Compass - an instrument which points North

Satellite – A man made object in Space Orbit which can take photographs from above

ONLINE RESOURCES AND BOOKS

- Google Maps to view maps and satellite views around the world at a range of scales.
- The Once Upon a Time Map book by BG Hennessy, Peter Joyce
- Map it! All about Maps by Sharon Cohen.

OTHER USEFUL VOCABULARY

Left, Right, North, South, East, West, up, down, in front, behind, over, under, above, below, Road, Station, Building, Bus stop, railway, post office, shop, supermarket, park, hospital, tree, garden, Church, car park, Cycle lane, Campsite, emergency telephone, lighthouse, Nature Reserve, Golf course,