



#8807

MAP AND GLOBE SKILLS

Grade Levels: 2-6

11 minutes

SVE & CHURCHILL MEDIA 1999

DESCRIPTION

How do maps and globes differ? How are maps made? What kinds of maps are there? Presents basic information about these two related items and defines words such as grid, scale, meridian, latitude, longitude, and parallel. Explains the importance of maps and globes in our everyday lives and concludes with a review.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Geography

- ◆ Standard: Understands the characteristics and uses of maps, globes, and other geographic tools and technologies
 - Benchmark: Knows the basic elements of maps and globes (e.g., title, legend, cardinal and intermediate directions, scale, grid, principal parallels, meridians, projection)
 - Benchmark: Uses map grids (e.g., latitude and longitude or alphanumeric system) to plot absolute location

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To illustrate that globes and maps are models of our earth.
2. To introduce the differences between maps and globes and explain how they are made.
3. To depict how grids made up of latitude and longitude lines are used on maps and globes and name the significant parallels and meridians.
4. To study the use of a graphic scale to measure and calculate the distance between two points on a map.
5. To examine the use of the legend on a map and why it is necessary.
6. To illustrate different kinds of maps and how they are used, such as city maps, road maps, and historical maps.
7. To study the importance of maps and globes in finding locations and telling us about where we live.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This video intends to give your students an understanding of basic concepts in geography and covers maps and globes, weather and climate, earth's physical features, environmental issues, themes of geography, wonder of the world, soil and vegetation, and the geography of political divisions.

Map & Globe Skills introduces the fundamentals of making and using maps and globes. The program not only teaches the mechanics of map-reading such as grids and scales, but also helps young students develop a concept of place.

The presentation explains how maps and globes differ and when each is used; how they are created; how to find locations using the geographic grid; and the importance of maps and globes in our everyday lives.

VOCABULARY

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. city maps | 11. legend |
| 2. compass directions | 12. locate |
| 3. equator | 13. longitude |
| 4. geographic grid | 14. map |
| 5. globe | 15. meridians |
| 6. graphic scale | 16. parallels |
| 7. grid | 17. prime meridian |
| 8. hemispheres | 18. road maps |
| 9. historical maps | 19. scale |
| 10. latitude | 20. United States Geological Survey |



BEFORE SHOWING

How is a map or globe used? What does it tell you? Have any of the students ever used a map or globe before? When? What did they find or discover when they used it? What does it tell you about your area?

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. What are *globes* and *maps*? Why do we use them? What is the goal of both globes and maps? What does it mean to *locate* something? How do maps and globes help us locate places or things?
2. What is the system of intersecting lines called on a map? What is the set of lines running north and south on the geographic grid? What are the individual lines in this set called? What is the most important of the meridians?
3. What is the set of lines running east and west on the geographic grid? What are the individual lines in this set called? What is the best-known parallel? What is the *equator*? Show students the two hemispheres on a globe and how the equator

splits the earth equally in two. What is the northern half called? What is the southern half called?

4. How are maps different from globes? Why can't maps represent the surface of the planet the way globes can? What do maps show?
5. What is the most important tool on a map? What does a small-scale object tell us about the real thing? What is the scale on a map called? How is it used on a map?
6. What is the *legend*? Show students an example of a legend on the classroom map or in a textbook. What does that legend say about the map? How does it help us use the map?
7. How are maps made? Ask students what they think about this process. Have they ever seen it before? Did they know how it was done?
8. What is the special branch of the U.S. government whose job is to make sure the information used to make maps is completely correct? What are some other kinds of maps that were mentioned in the video? Have students ever used any of these maps? Have they ever seen their parents or family members use them? How were they used? How might they use them?
9. Discuss the importance of maps and globes. Why do we need maps? What would we do without them? Would we know as much as we do about past cultures if maps had never been created?

Applications and Activities

1. Build a globe with your students to show them not only the different areas of the earth but how to draw things to scale.
2. Create a map. Assign students the task of measuring the room and the distance between objects in it, creating the objects on the poster board according to scale, and making a map legend that shows the scale and tells the meaning of colors and symbols.
3. On the computer, enter in addresses, latitudinal and longitudinal degrees, or names of specific places to see customized maps. Examine the maps as a group and then encourage students to find their homes, friends' or family members' homes, or other places of interest.

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Basic Map Skills #8626
- Learn West and You'll Know the Rest #3626
- Maps and Globes: A Thorough Understanding #8808



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid-safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **WORKING WITH MAPS**

<http://www.usgs.gov/education/learnweb/wwmaps.html>

From the U.S. Geological Survey, click on “Map Adventures” to learn how to understand and use maps, or click on “What Do Maps Show?” to learn about geographic themes, or click on “Exploring Maps” to learn basic mapmaking and map-reading skills.

- **MAPQUEST**

<http://www.mapquest.com/>

Find a map, link to a world atlas and road atlas, or enter in a street address and a map with street names and directions will appear.

- **ETAK GUIDE**

<http://www.etakguide.com/>

Find a location anywhere in the United States and center a map on the spot you’ve chosen. Zoom in for a view of specific streets or for a bird’s-eye view.

