

Special Ed

# READING MAPS



ALSO INCLUDES GOOGLE SLIDES

Special Needs for Special Kids





*This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader, has a very short attention span, and struggles to sit still. With some support he is able to do this unit, and enjoys the challenge. He is my tester!!*



# Reading Maps for Special Education

By  
Christa Joy  
Special Needs for Special Kids



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4-5	Vocabulary board
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Also included in this resource as separate files:

- Lesson plans
- Links and directions to digital activities
- PowerPoints **(these are the books in the lesson plan)**
- Voice recorded PowerPoint
- Activities in black and white

This unit contains over 100 pages of material plus 26 google slides. I have included a detailed lesson plan to help you make the most of everything in this unit including how to add some group activities.

This unit comes in 2 separate files, one in color and one in black and white.



# Reading Maps

## Lesson Plan

### Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
  - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
  - Print out, laminate, and bind
  - Also available as a recorded PowerPoint and video in the directions for digital activities pdf
- Vocabulary cards
  - Print out a set of cards onto cardstock and laminate
  - Make one set for each student and also one for the teacher to use in I Spy games

### Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Use the fact sheet to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

### Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
  - a. For more info, read more here:  
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
  - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways:  
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make you own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:
  - a. I often complete the activity myself and often laminated it for easy review that I could use year after year.
  - b. My copies were also helpful as either a model for students who needed more support or as a way for more advanced students to self-check their work.

The lesson plans contain:

Overall tips for teaching students with significant needs



## Quick Look

Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Circle map</li></ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Labeling maps activity</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Labeling maps activity</li></ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Labeling maps activity</li></ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Reading map keys</li></ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Reading map keys</li></ul>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Sorting activity</li></ul>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Identify grid lines</li></ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Close worksheets</li></ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment</li></ul>

The lesson plans contain:

A quick look at what you will do each day



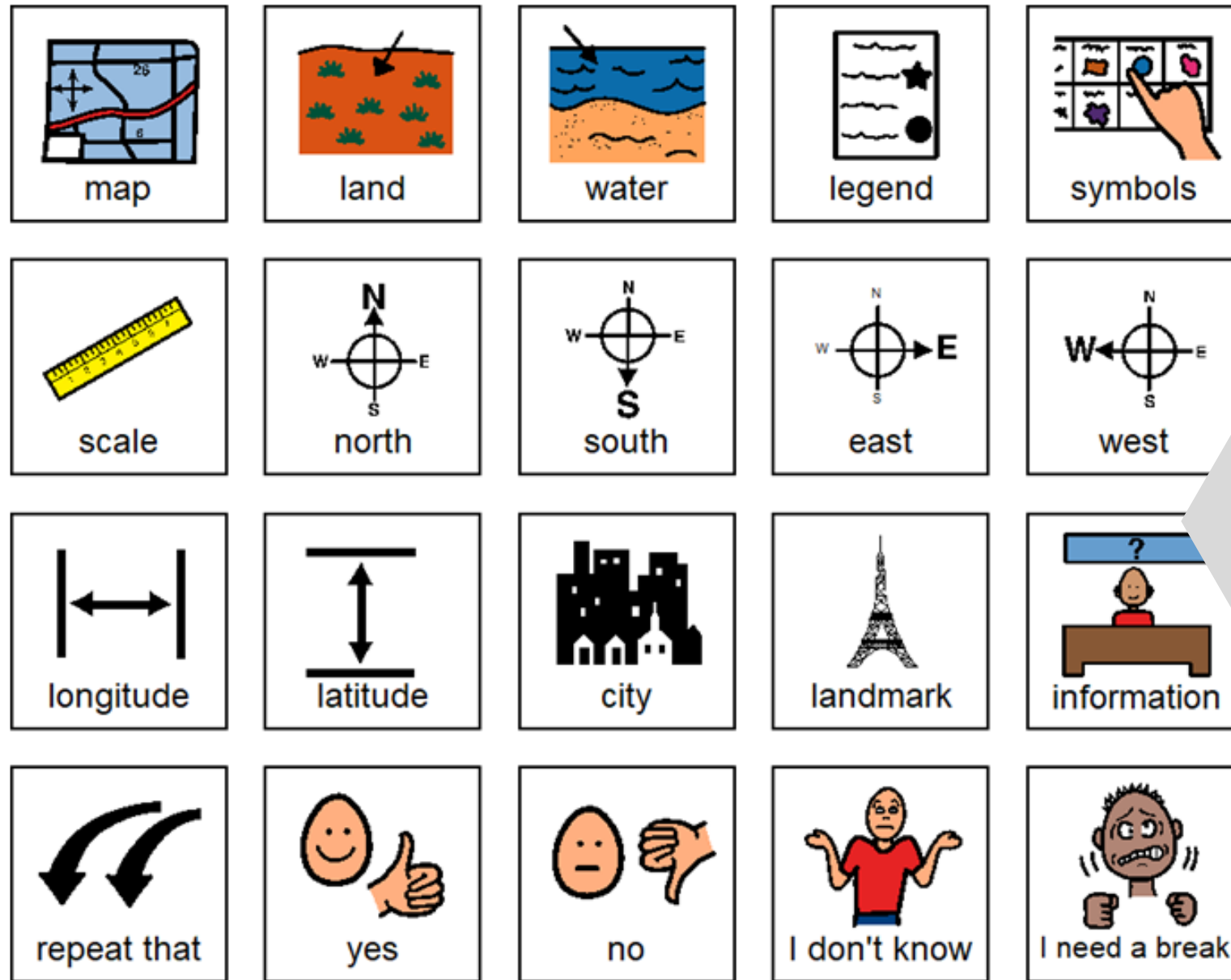
## Day 7

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to the book: <b>Reading maps</b> (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read through the story, asking lots of questions</li><li>• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li></ul>
Vocabulary cards <b>Bean Bag Toss</b> (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Glue a card to the paper plates (one on each plate)</li><li>• Arrange them around the room</li><li>• Students toss the bean bag trying to get it to land on a paper plate</li><li>• Students retrieve the paper plate and share the vocabulary card they retrieved</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary cards</li><li>• Paper plates</li><li>• Bean bags</li></ul>
Reading keys review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review the map labeled yesterday</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• map completed yesterday</li></ul>
Sorting activity (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students will sort characteristics of the 4 types of maps covered in the unit.</li><li>• Add color-coding for students who need more support.</li><li>• Make connections to the book as necessary</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• worksheet</li><li>• Scissors</li><li>• Glue</li></ul>
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each student reads their finished activity to the group using the communication method of their choice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed activity</li><li>• Communication devices</li></ul>

The lesson plans contain:

Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run





This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!

(There are NO vocabulary cards in this unit.)

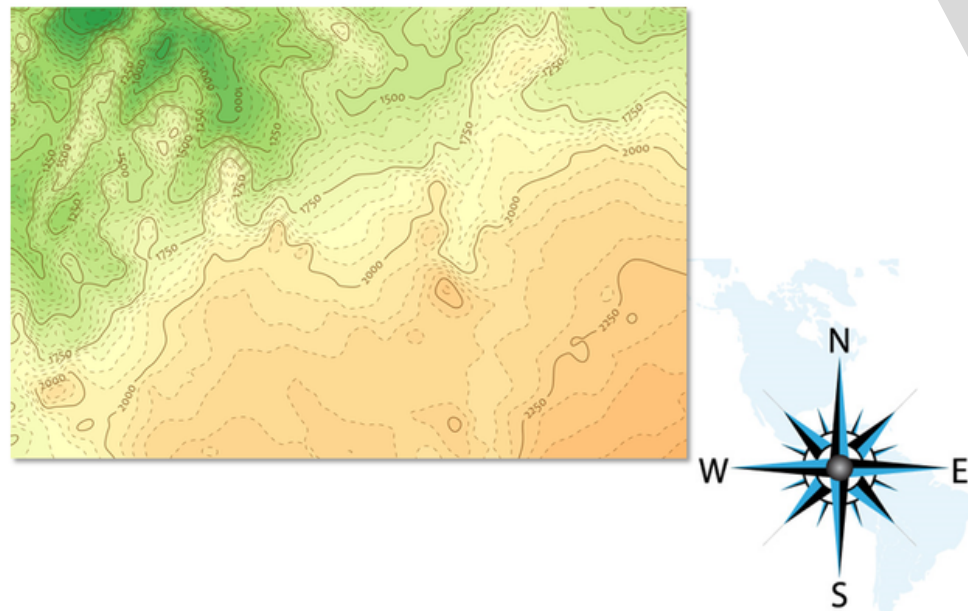


To know what these lines all mean, you need to find the **legend**. The legend is where all the information you will need is found.



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**Contour lines** tell you how high you are above sea level. Every time you go higher, there is a new line. The closer these lines are together, the steeper the change in elevation.



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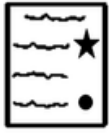
There is a 30-page book with simple text and engaging photos.

It comes in pdf version as well as a voice recorded PowerPoint (so you don't have to print it out.) There is also a movie version you can use in google slides.



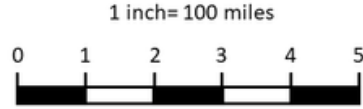
## legend

Place on the map that gives you the information you need to read the map.



## scale

Tells you how to determine the actual distance between objects on a map.



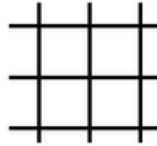
## key

Place on map that shows you what each line and symbol means.



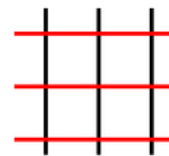
## grid lines

Lines that go from top to bottom side to side on the map.



## Lines of latitude

Lines that go across the map and tell you how far you are from the equator.



## equator

Line that goes around the middle of the Earth.



## Lines of longitude

Lines that go up and down across the map and tell you how far you are from the meridian.



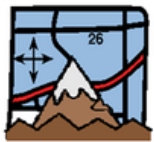
## Prime Meridian

Line that goes around the Earth through the North and South poles.



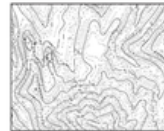
## topographical map

Tells you about the shape of the surface of the earth.



## contour lines

Lines that measure how far above sea level that point is.



## geologic map

Tells which rocks and sediment layers are below the earth's surface.



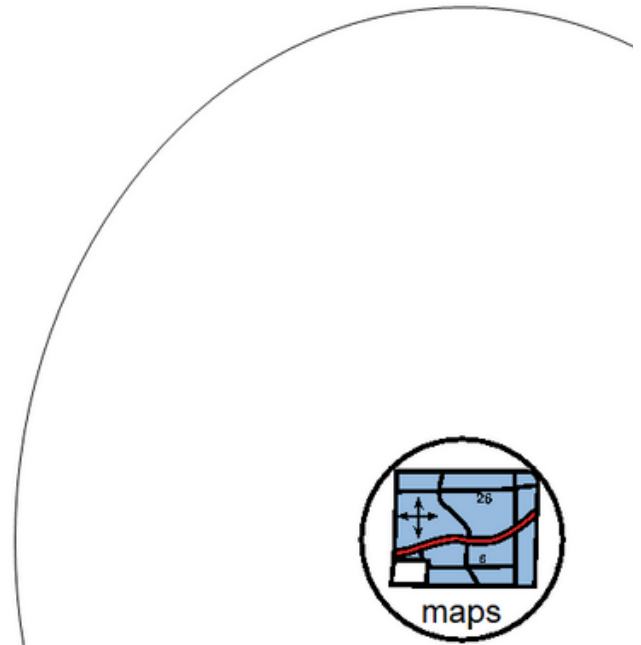
## weather map

Map that shows weather and wind patterns.

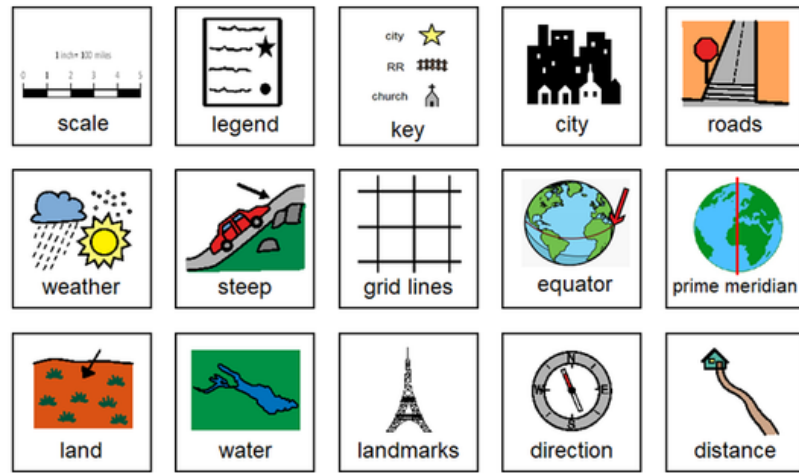


This unit comes with 12 vocabulary cards. There are daily group activities for students to review these new words.

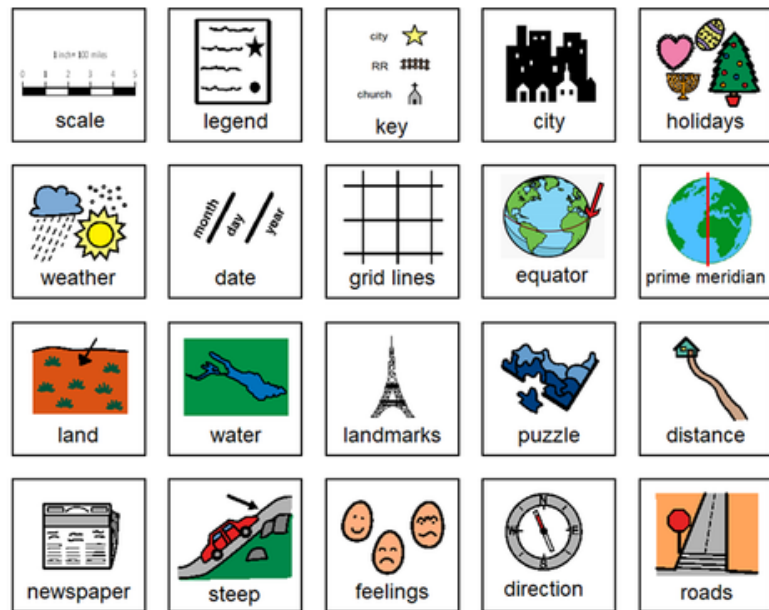




Cut apart pictures and place in circle map showing some facts about maps.



Cut apart pictures and place in circle map **ONLY IF** they to maps.



There is a circle map about reading maps.

Circle maps are a great way for students to see the concept at a glance. There are 2 versions:

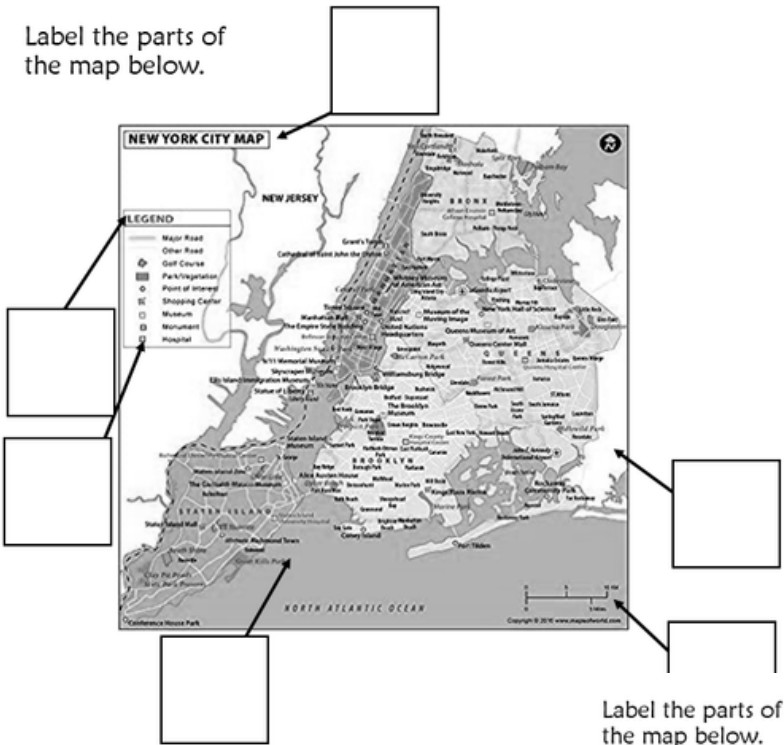
- One is errorless
- One has wrong answers mixed in students will have to set aside



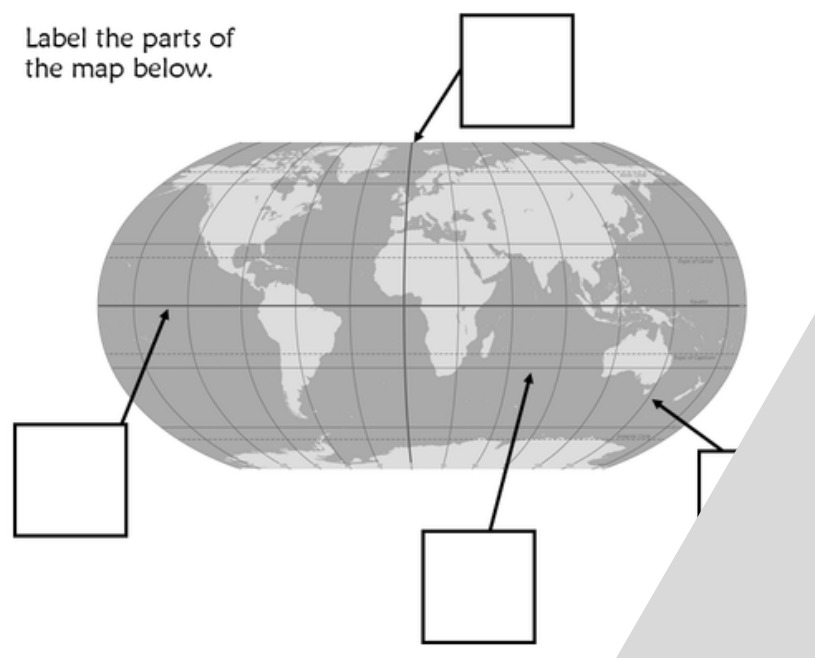
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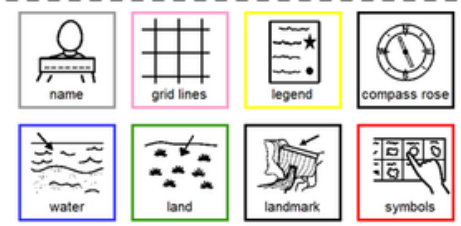
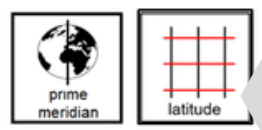
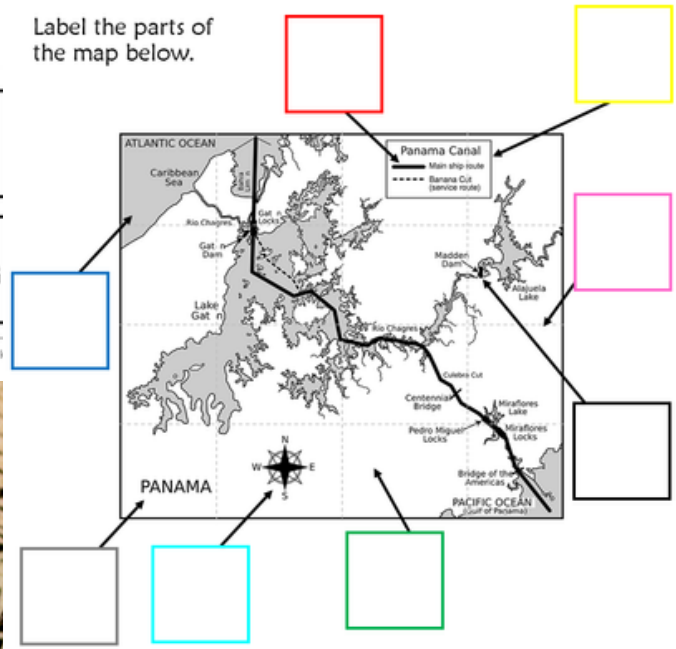
Label the parts of the map below.



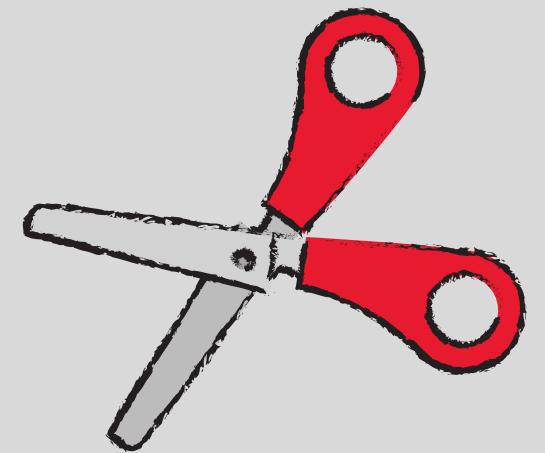
Label the parts of the map below.



Label the parts of the map below.



There are 3 maps for students to label various parts of the map. Each map includes a color-coded version for students who need more support.

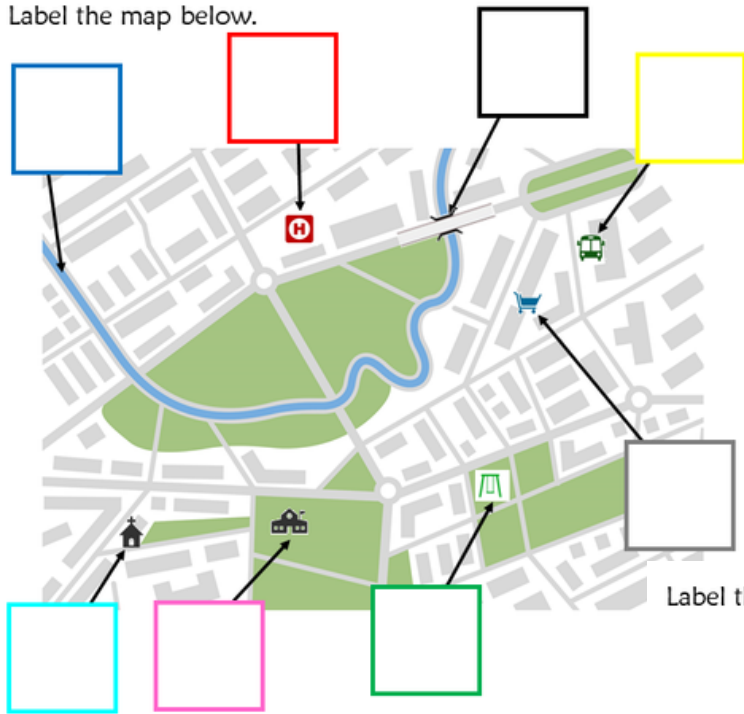


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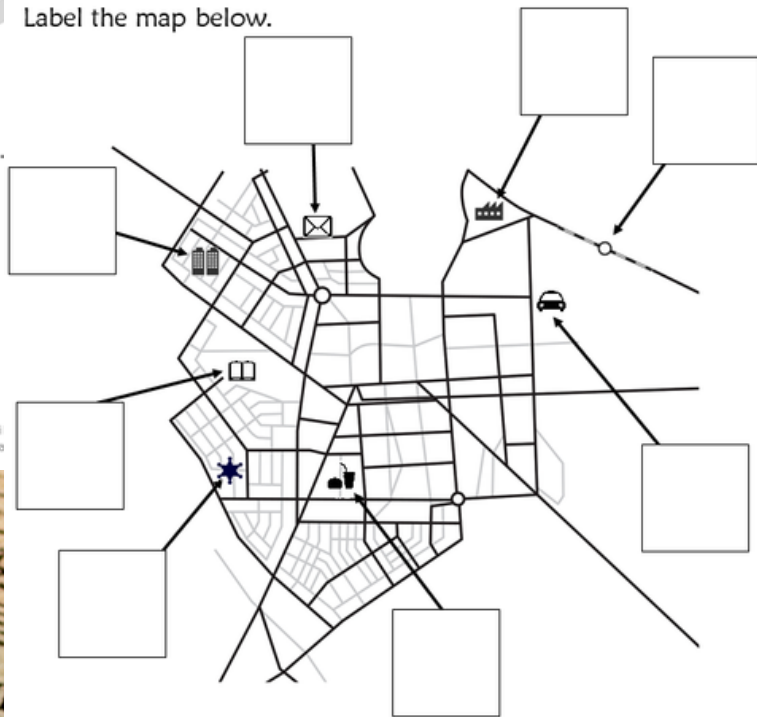
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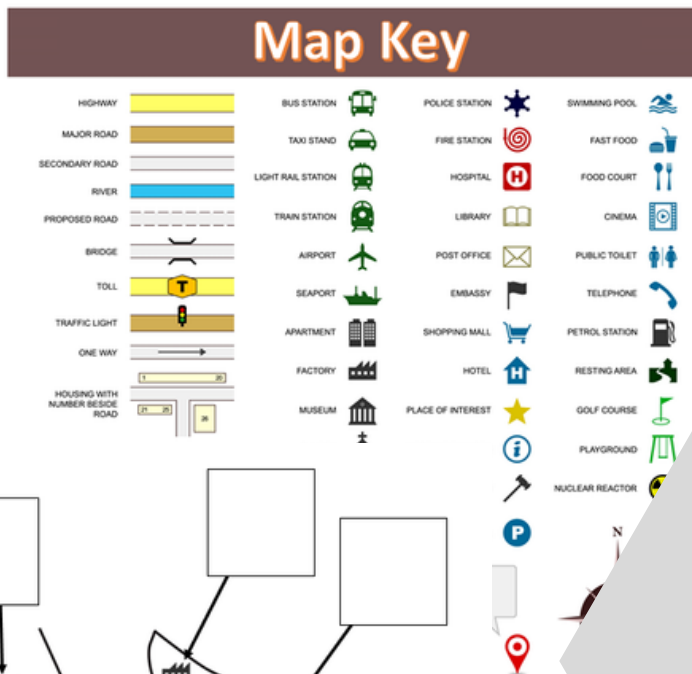
Label the map below.



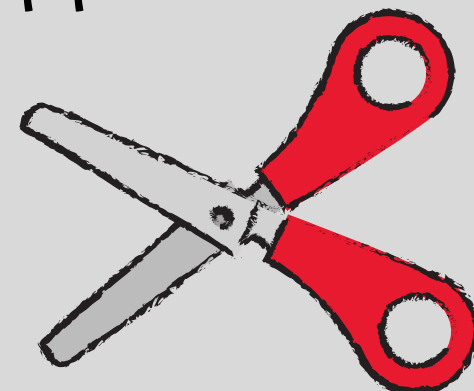
Label the map below.



Use this key to identify various items on the map on the next page.



There are 2 maps for students to practice reading a map key. There are color-coded versions included for students who need more support.



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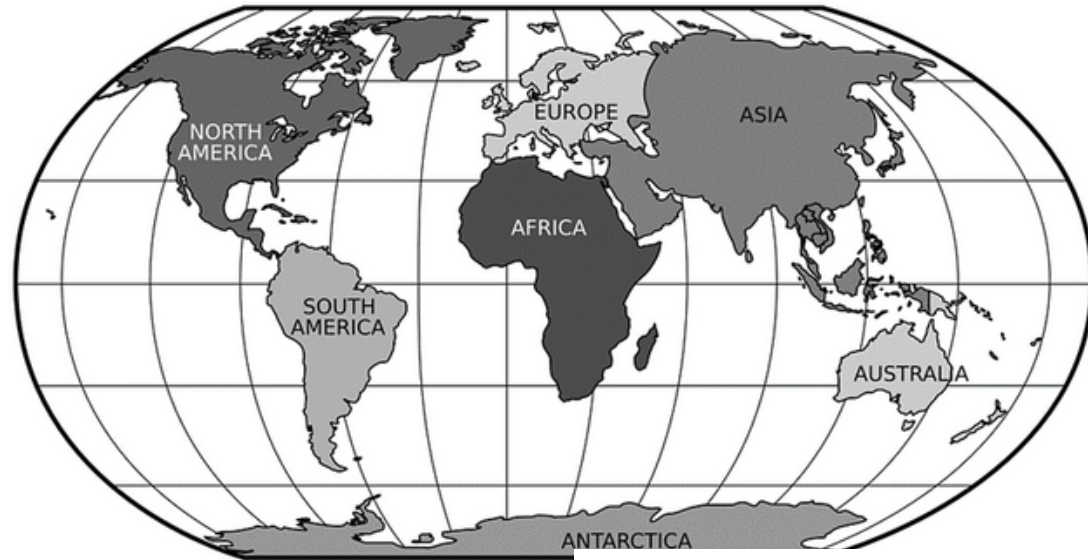
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Trace the following lines:

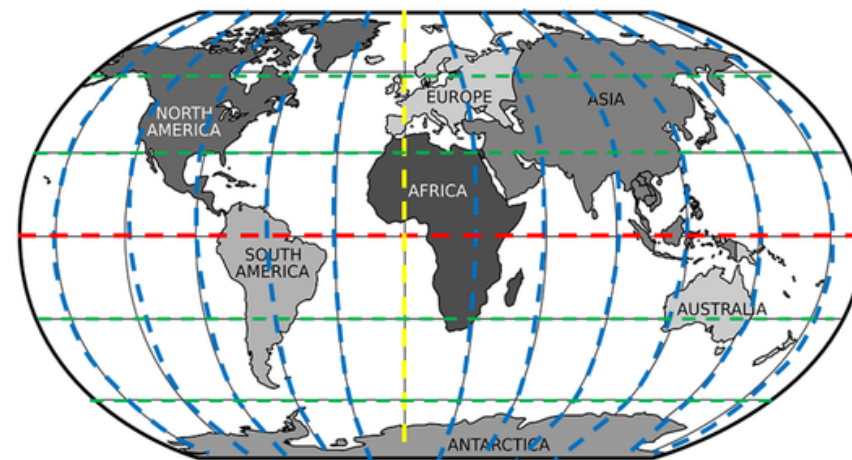
- Equator: red
- Prime meridian: yellow
- Lines of latitude: blue
- Lines of longitude: green



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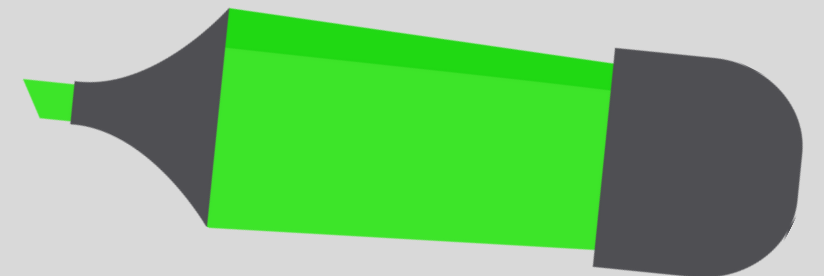
Trace the following lines:

- Equator: red
- Prime meridian: yellow
- Lines of longitude: blue
- Lines of latitude: green



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Students will highlight different grid lines on a map. There is a differentiated version included with lines for students to trace.





Sort the characteristics of maps on the next page into the correct column.



road map



topographical map

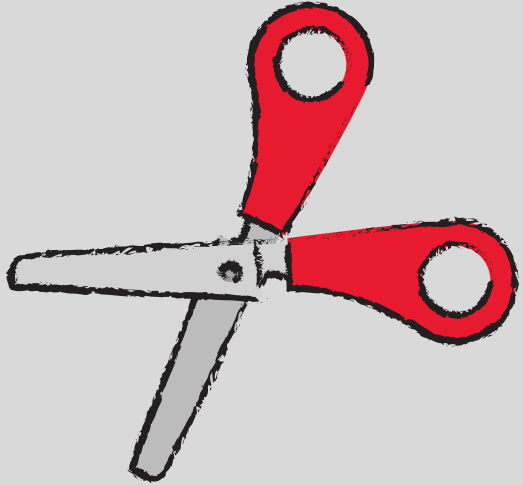


geologic map



weather map

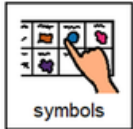
Students will sort characteristics of 4 different types of maps. Suggestions for differentiation and an answer key is included.



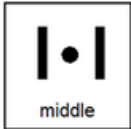


## Reading maps

1. The  is where you will find the information about the map.
2. The  lets you know how far apart things are.
3. The key has various  used and what they stand for.
4. The equator goes around the  of the earth.
5. The prime meridian goes from the  to the South Pole.



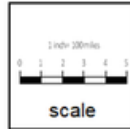
symbols



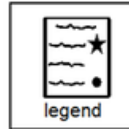
middle



North Pole



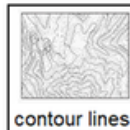
scale



legend

## Reading maps

6. Topographical maps tell you about the  of the earth.
7.  tell you how many feet above sea level a place is.
8.  tell you what is below the surface of the earth.
9. Weather maps show you if a  is approaching.
10. Common road maps help you find the nearest .



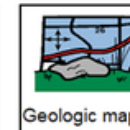
contour lines



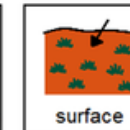
McDonald's



storm



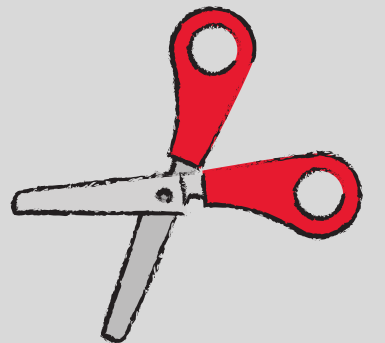
Geologic maps



surface

Close worksheets are a great informal assessment. This unit has two that cover the main concepts from the book. Suggestions for differentiation are included.

Answer key included.

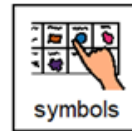
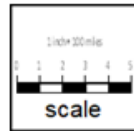




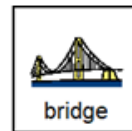
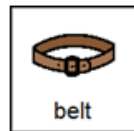
1. Where do you find all the information you need to read a map?



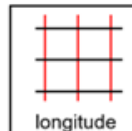
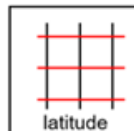
2. What tells you how far apart things are in real life?



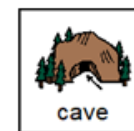
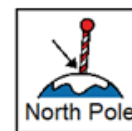
3. The line that goes around the center of the earth is called the:



4. Which grid lines go *across* the map?



5. What does the prime meridian pass through?



There is a 10 question assessment.

There are 3 versions. This version has 10 questions with 3 picture choices for each question.

Answer key included.

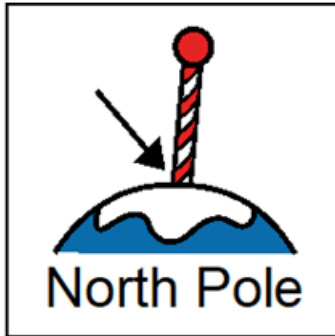


Print onto cardstock or mount on index cards. Cut pictures apart and show student answer choices for each question.

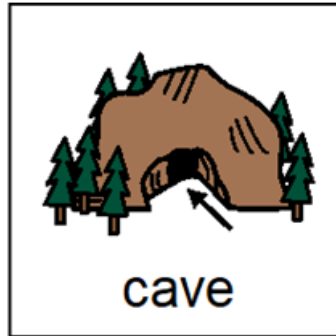
Q 5



Canada

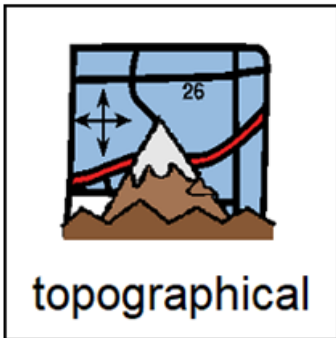


North Pole

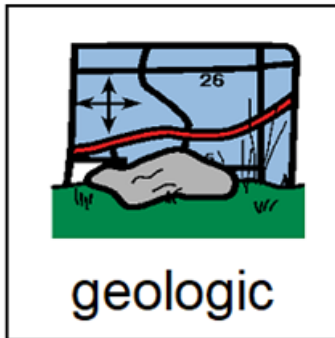


cave

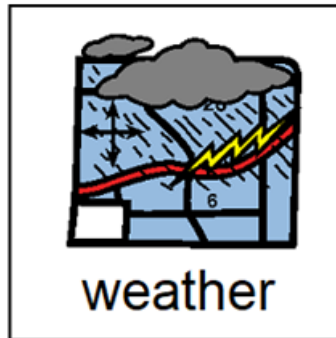
Q 6,7



topographical



geologic



weather

With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.



1. Where do you find all the information you need to read a map?
  - A. Cover
  - B. Legend
  - C. Scale
2. What tells you how far apart things are in real life?
  - A. Scale
  - B. Symbols
  - C. Tape measure
3. The line that goes around the center of the earth is called the:
  - A. Belt
  - B. Bridge
  - C. Equator
4. Which grid lines go *across* the map?
  - A. Latitude
  - B. Longitude
  - C. Contour
5. What does the prime meridian pass through?
  - A. Canada
  - B. North Pole
  - C. Cave
6. What kind of map can tell you if it will snow tomorrow?
  - A. Topographical
  - B. Geologic
  - C. Weather

This is your traditional multiple choice version. It can also be used as a recording sheet if your students are using the version with index cards.



Watch to the  
movie on  
Maps

## Maps

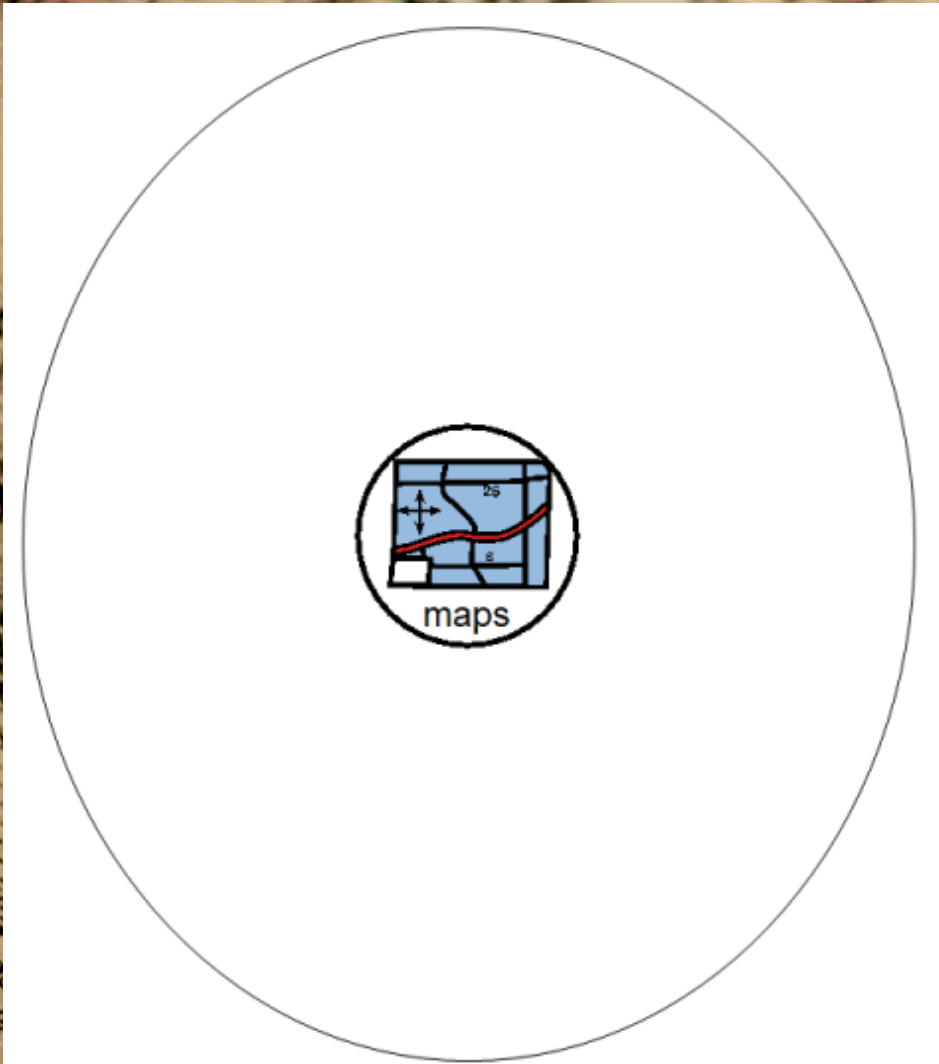
  
By  
Christa Joy



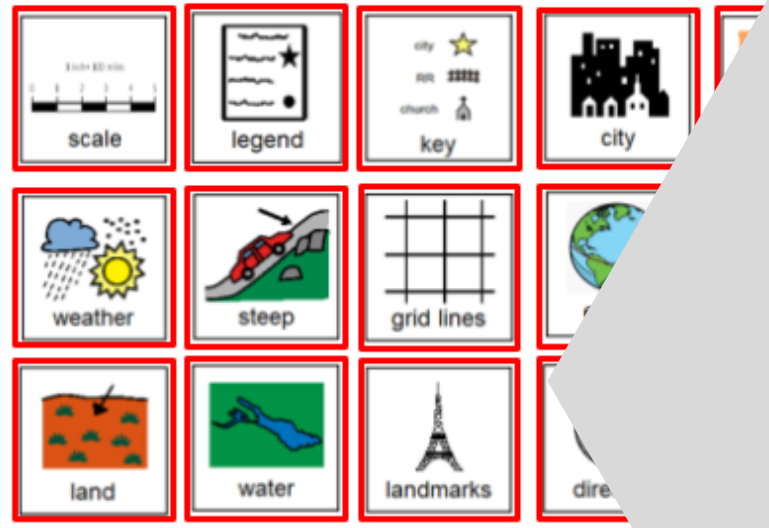
This unit also includes digital versions of the activities.

Students can watch a movie book version of the book rather than printing it out.





Place some of the pictures in circle map showing some things about reading maps.



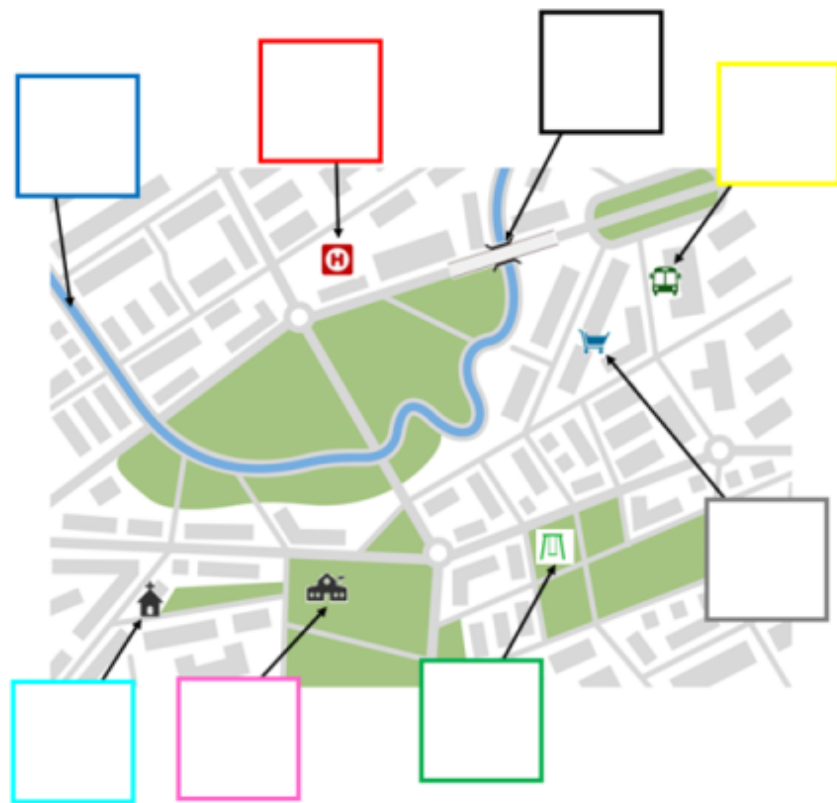
Each activity is set up so students can click and drag answers. No typing is required.

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Using the key, label the map.



### COMPLETE MAP TOOLKIT AND LEGEND

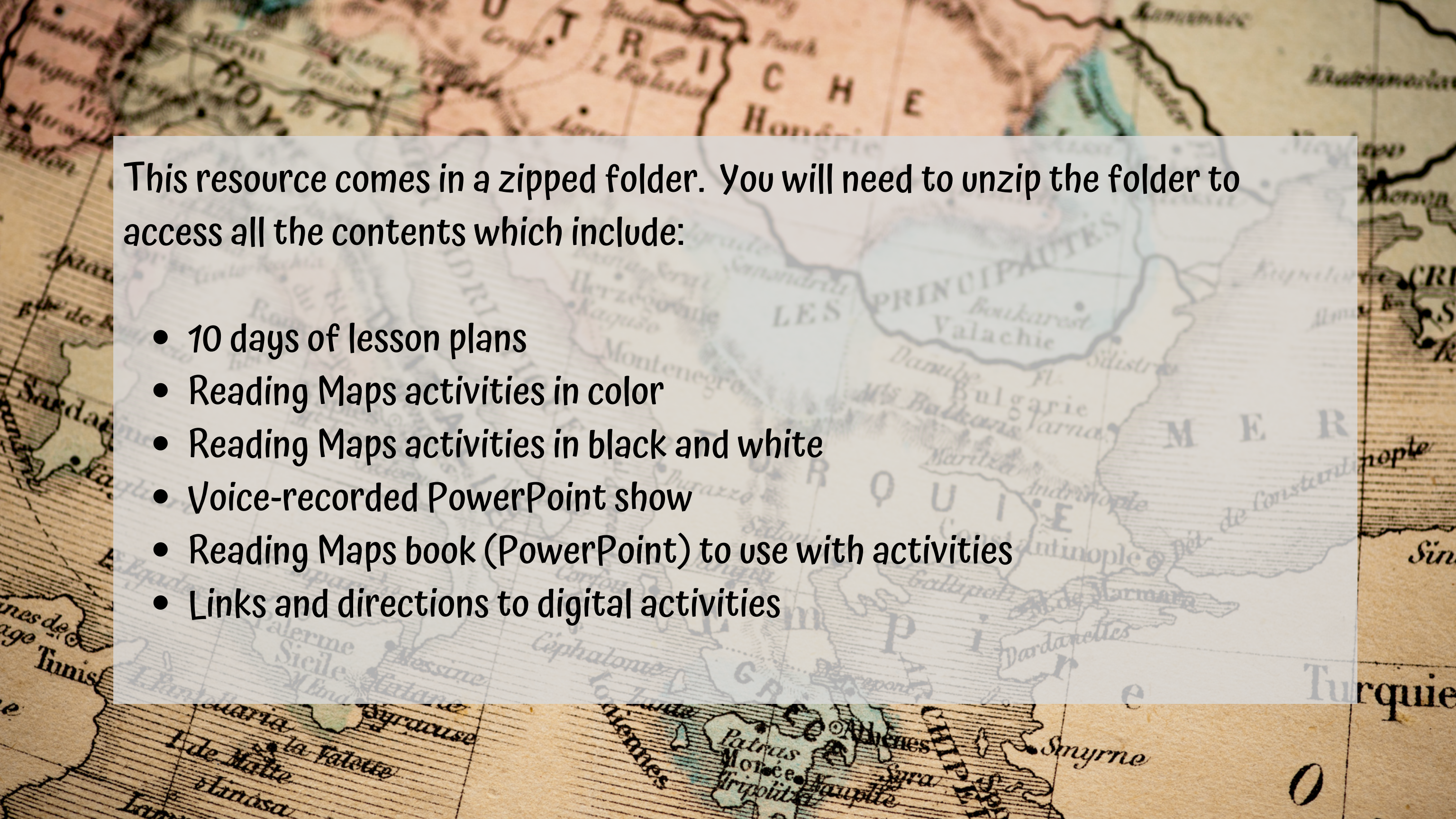
HIGHWAY	MAJOR ROAD	SECONDARY ROAD	RIVER	PROPOSED ROAD	BRIDGE	TOLL	TRAFFIC LIGHT	ONE WAY	HOUSING WITH NUMBER HOUSE	LIGHT RAIL & STATION	TRAIN RAIL & STATION	STATE BOUNDARY	CITY BOUNDARY	GRASS FIELD	SEA	FOREST	BUS STATION	TAXI STAND	LIGHT RAIL STATION	TRAIN STATION	AIRPORT	SEAPORT	APARTMENT	FACTORY	MUSEUM	CHURCH	CHINESE TEMPLE	MOSQUE	HINDU TEMPLE	SCHOOL	COMMUNITY HALL	POLICE STATION	FIRE STATION	HOSPITAL	LIBRARY	POST OFFICE	EMBASSY	SHOPPING MALL	HOTEL	PLACE OF INTEREST	INFORMATION KIOSK	HIGH COURT	PARKING AREA	SWIMMING POOL	FAST FOOD	FOOD COURT	CINEMA	PUBLIC TOILET	TELEPHONE	PETROL STATION	RESTING AREA	GOLF COURSE	PLAYGROUND	NUCLEUS
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ChristaJoy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
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The second set of slides uses color for differentiation and extra support for students who may need it. Mix and match slides from both sets to make the perfect set for each student.





This resource comes in a zipped folder. You will need to unzip the folder to access all the contents which include:

- 10 days of lesson plans
- Reading Maps activities in color
- Reading Maps activities in black and white
- Voice-recorded PowerPoint show
- Reading Maps book (PowerPoint) to use with activities
- Links and directions to digital activities