

Year 6 Geography: Atlas and Map skills

Prior Learning

- A map is a drawing of an actual place that uses lines and symbols to represent real-life objects.
- People have used maps for hundreds of years to help them travel from place to place.
- Key features of maps include: a title, a compass, symbols, a key and different colours for important things, such as blue for rivers
- When planning a journey using a map, people usually think about the quickest or safest route
- Maps can show physical features, as well as continents, countries and capital cities.

Sticky Knowledge

- Landscape features and places (both human and physical) can be located on an Ordnance Survey map through the use of grid references and grid squares.
- The 'Eastings' and 'Northings' are the numbers around the edge of an OS map. To pinpoint a place you take the Eastings number first, then the Northing (along the corridor and up the stairs).
- You also need an the two letter code (e.g. SK 2607) to help locate features.
- Six-figure grid references enable more accurate readings, as two more figures give the exact location within the grid square identified through the four-figure grid reference.
- Maps can be drawn in different scales. 1:25,000 means for every 1cm on the map 25,000cm are covered on the ground. This can be expressed as 1 cm for every $\frac{1}{4}$ km or more usually 4 cm to 1km (also 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches to 1 mile)
- Locate the world's countries, using maps, to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities.
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied

Vocabulary

Sketch map	A simple map with only basic details
Key	Helps us understand map symbols
Map symbol	A picture or sign used on a map that represents something else
Ordnance Survey	A survey organisation in the UK which prepares very detailed maps of the country
Route	A way of getting from a start point to a finish point.
Compass	A tool which shows people the direction they are travelling
Atlas	A collection of maps in one book.
Scale	Map scale refers to the relationship (or ratio) between distance on a map and the corresponding distance on the ground.
Landmark	A feature of the landscape or area that is easily recognised
Grid reference	The capital city or capital town (or just capital) is a city or town where the central government of a country is
Easting	The numbers used in a grid reference that run west to east.
Northings	The numbers used in a grid reference that run south to north.

