



Endpoints for Geography

Year 6 – Mapping the Earth



During this project, we will revise Earth's features and lines of latitude and longitude, then learn about map scales, grid references, contour lines and map symbols. We will then study human settlement patterns and carry out an enquiry into local settlements.

What I know and can explain

Latitude and longitude help identify locations in relation to the equator and the Prime Meridian

There are five major lines of latitude: Equator (0°), Tropic of Cancer (23.5°N), Tropic of Capricorn (23.5°S), Arctic Circle (66.5°N) and Antarctic Circle (66.5°S)

The Prime Meridian is the imaginary line from the North Pole to the South Pole that passes through Greenwich in England and marks 0° longitude, from which all other longitudes are measured

A scale on a map is written as a ratio, for example, 1cm:800km

Maps can be large scale and show a small area, or small scale and show a large area

Distances on maps can be measured using grid lines, the scale, a ruler, a finger, string and the scale bar

Ordnance survey maps use four and six grid references to locate a feature or place

Contour lines join points of equal height above sea level and show an area's terrain

Ordnance Survey symbols are used to represent different features on the landscape. This includes buildings, roads, rivers, lakes and forests

Useful Vocabulary

Equator - A line of latitude around the middle of the Earth at 0°

Four-figure grid reference – Used to indicate the bottom left-hand corner of a particular square on a map. The first two numbers show the horizontal position, and the second two numbers show the vertical position

Map scale – The ratio of a distance on the map to the corresponding distance on the ground

Map symbol – A picture or icon that represents a physical or human feature on a map

Scale ratio – The relationship between the distance on a map and the distance on land written as a ratio, for example 1cm:1 km means that 1 cm on a map represents 1 km on land

Six-figure grid reference – A method of locating a specific point within a grid square on a map. The first three numbers, called the eastings, show the horizontal position and the second three numbers, called the northings, show the vertical position.