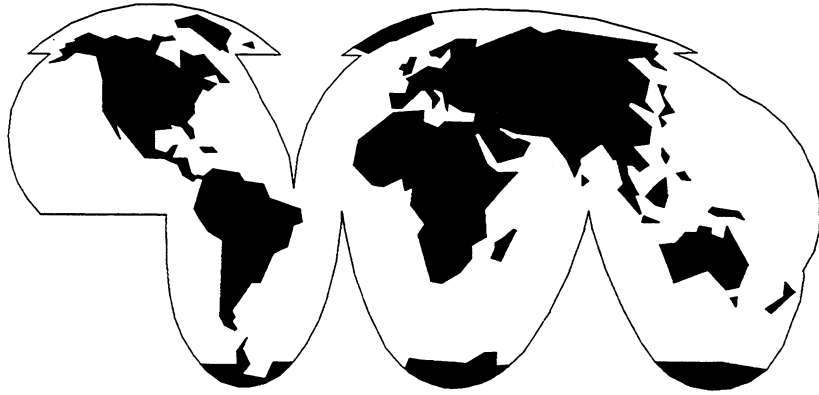


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Introduction



Beginning MAP SKILLS

One of a child's earliest opportunities to communicate with others is through pictures. He learns the ideas of others when he looks at pictures and talks about what he sees. She lets others know what she is thinking when she draws a picture and tells an interested person about what she has drawn.

*A **map** is a picture. It is a visual way to communicate information about all kinds of things, from the floor plans of a child's bedroom to a mysterious, fictional treasure map. From a map, a child can gather and share an abundance of information about the real or imagined world in which he or she lives.*

***Beginning MAP SKILLS** contains activities geared to primary children who are learning basic map skills. The progression of skills taught is gradual, and skills once learned are reinforced in subsequent activities. Successful completion of these activities will produce eager mapmakers, on their way to becoming more visually literate readers.*

What Is a Map?

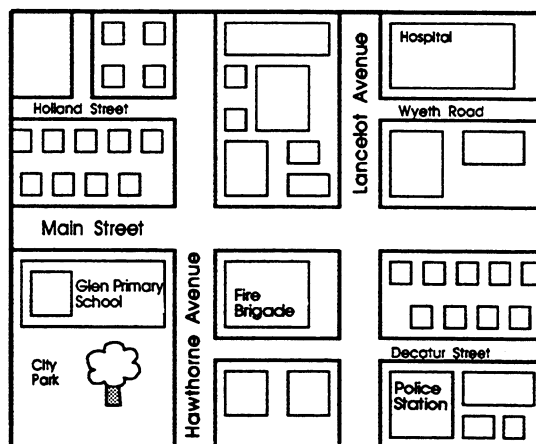
A *map* is a picture that shows us a place. The place a map shows us can be anywhere! A map can be drawn of our room, our street, our school, our city, our country, our world, or our solar system. A map can show us what it looks like in our bodies, under a city, or beneath the ocean. We can even make a map of a pretend world!

What places do these maps show us? Use the places in the word box to help you.

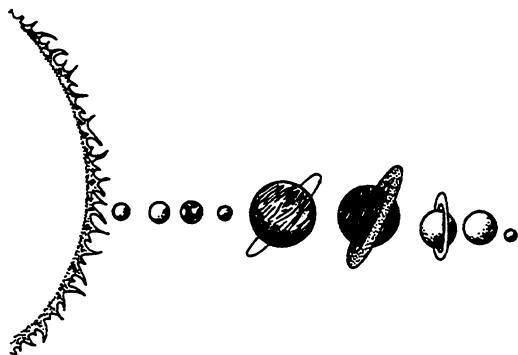
| | | |
|--------|---------|---------------|
| room | city | world |
| school | country | solar system |
| street | body | pretend world |



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

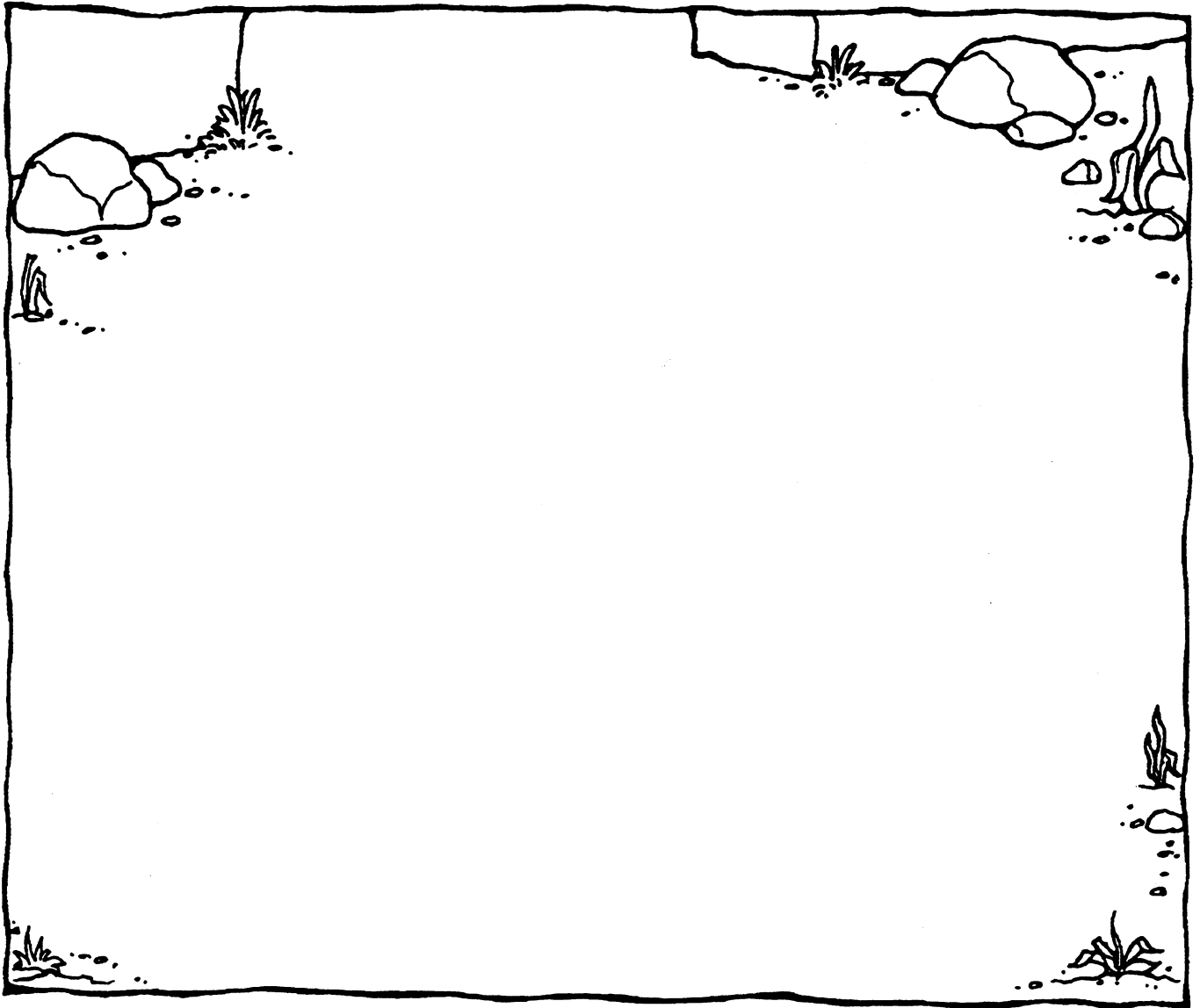


4. _____

Early Maps

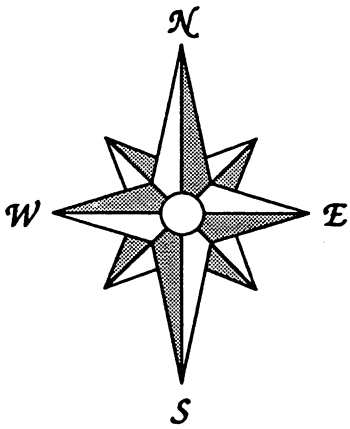
Suppose you live in a time long, long ago. You decide to go to a special spot to play and want your friend to come with you. But your friend is not awake and you don't want to wait. Your friend's mother suggests you leave your friend a note outside the entrance to the cave.

You cannot write and your friend cannot read, but you can draw and your friend can understand pictures. The spot you want to play is next to the tall gum tree by the pond. You will be sitting on the large flat rock by the tree. Draw this message for your friend in the dirt outside his or her cave.



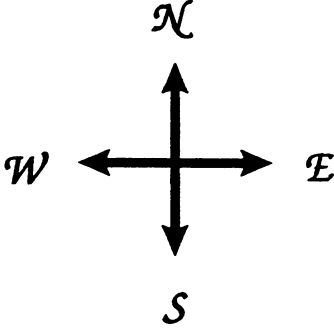
Early maps were made like this. Sometimes they were drawn in dirt or carved in tree bark. Sometimes they were marked in clay or chiselled in stone. All these early maps told people who drew or read them something about their world.

The Parts of a Map








Most maps have parts that are the same. You will learn about these parts in this book.

Maps have some way of showing the directions north, south, east, and west.



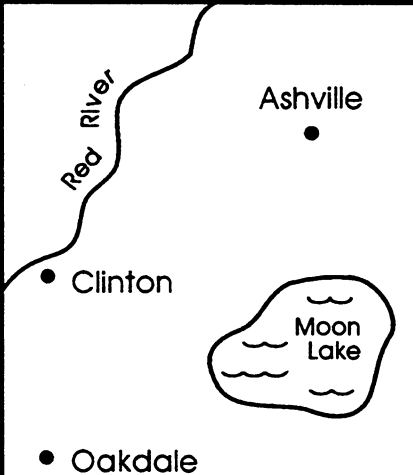
Maps have **symbols** that stand for things that are drawn on a map. These symbols are explained on a map key.

| Map Key | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| • | town |
| ⊛ | capital |
| ══ | road |
|  | mountains |
|  | river |
|  | forest |
|  | lake |



1 centimetre = 1 kilometre

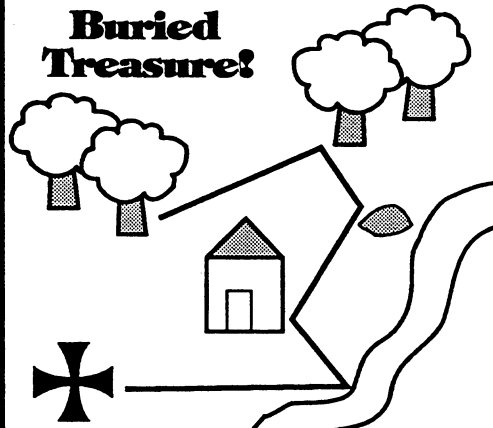
Maps have **scales** to show us a way to measure distance. Mapmakers usually have to draw things smaller on their maps than they really are.



Maps have **titles**. The title tells us what the map is about.

Maps have **labels**. Labels tell us what things on the map are.

Buried Treasure!



Can you name the parts of a map?