

Maps Scavenger Hunt

We use maps every day. You may use a map to help you find a store in the mall or to find your town when watching the weather report. There are many different types of maps. Learn more about maps on the World Book Web and then find the answers to the following questions!

Find It!

1. If you were going to take a bus in an unfamiliar town, what kind of map would you use to plan your route?
2. What is a map key?
3. Why are flat maps not as exact as globes?
4. Who created the first atlas?
5. What are lines of longitude and latitude?
6. What is the Greenwich Meridian?

Did You Know?

- ◆ Making or studying maps is called *cartography*.
- ◆ Maps of our earth are continuously revised due to changes in population, the shapes of coastline, or the area of forests.
- ◆ The oldest known map appears on a clay tablet made in Babylonia before 2000 B.C. In the 1900's, people began using aircraft and spacecraft to make much more accurate maps than we had ever had before!

Learn More!

- ◆ Click here to see the lines of latitude and longitude.
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/advanced/extmedia?id=ar343260&st=maps&sc=2&em=lr004276>
- ◆ When flat maps are made of the round earth, the earth's features become distorted. Click here to see an example of how distortion changes the shape of faces.
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/advanced/extmedia?id=ar343260&st=maps&sc=3&em=lr004278>
- ◆ Click here to see an early map of the world that was made long ago!
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/advanced/extmedia?id=ar343260&st=maps&sc=5&em=pc100790>

Answer Key

1. A transit map
2. A map key is a box on a map that tells what each symbol used on the map stands for.
3. Because the earth is actually round, like a globe, it must be stretched out in some places and made smaller in others in order to fit it onto flat paper.
4. Historians believe that Ptolemy created the first atlas in Egypt 1900 years ago.
5. Lines of latitude and longitude are imaginary lines that divide the earth into gridded sections.
6. The Greenwich Meridian is a special north-south line on the globe that is the starting point for the lines of longitude.