## TYPES OF MAPS AND COMPASS SKILLS

## What are Maps?

Maps are pictures that show places from above, as is they were drawn by someone in an airplane. Maps have titles to tell what the map shows.

Globe - a model of the Earth, a very small copy of Earth in its actual round shape, which is called a sphere


Physical Map - shows landforms and bodies of water
Political Map - shows borders of states and countries. It shows where cities are located. Capital cities are usually marked with a star.

History map - shows an area as it was in the past. A map of the Thirteen Colonies is a history map.

Grid maps - have a pattern of lines that form squares with numbers and letters. Numbers may go across the bottom. Letters may go up the sides. By finding a square associated with a letter and a number you can easily locate places.

Locator map - a small inset that shows how a place fits into a bigger place

## What is a Compass?



Intermediate directions - places between the cardinal directions, northeast, northwest, southeast, southwest

## Other Map Vocabulary Words:

Atlas - a book of many maps
Border - a boundary line that divides one state or country from another Symbol - a shape, line or color that stands for something on a map
Map key - a box in which all the symbols are explained. Sometimes called a map legend
Scale - a tiny ruler that compares the actual distance to the distance on a map

## Try this!



Look at a map of the United States.



