



Name: _____

Analyzing Maps

Encounter

1. Do you ever use printed maps, rather than maps on a phone or ipad? Can you think of a situation when printed maps might be better than electronic maps?

2. Now look at the primary source map. What is this a map of?

3. Describe the most dominant features of this map as if you were telling someone who couldn't see it.

4. What type of map is it? How do you know?





Now that you've become familiar with the map, it's time to take a closer look at it.

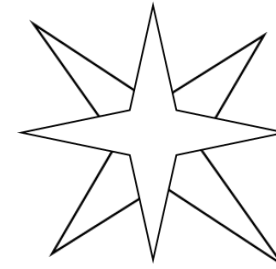
5. Look for a heading or title. Is there any information that will help you understand the map better? Is there any indication of who might have created the map or when? If so, summarize it.

6. Get your bearings! Decode the map's features using this charter below:

Investigate

Key or Legend: If there is a key or legend, draw some important symbols used and find an example of each on the map.

Orientation: Write a location on the map in the middle of the compass and then label locations around it with cardinal and intermediate directions.



Grid: Does the map have a grid showing longitude and latitude? Use it to find two locations.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Location	Longitude	Latitude

Scale: What scale is used on the map to measure distance?

1 _____ is equal to _____
(unit) (unit)

Use the scale to calculate the distance between two locations on the map.

7. What else do you notice in this map? Is there anything missing? Anything that surprises you?



Once you've learned everything you can from the map, it's time to build on your knowledge.

8. If this map were made at a different time or today, how would it look different?

9. Why would a historical map and a modern map possibly not look the same?

Build

10. How does this map add to your understanding of a historical event or people's lives in the past?



How can you add to the story?

- * What other features could you add to this map to make it useful?
- * Can you create a map of the world around you—your street, your neighborhood, your school, your town?
- * If you extended this map beyond its borders, what would you see?



Tips for Studying Maps

Terms

Bar scale (noun) A tool, printed or drawn, to show how distances should be measured on a map

Boundary (noun) A real or imaginary line that divides two places

Cardinal direction (noun) One of the four main points on a compass: north, south, east, or west

Compass rose (noun) A symbol that represents a compass showing cardinal and intermediate directions

Equator (noun) The imaginary line that runs east-west around the middle of Earth

Intermediate direction (noun) A point between two of the main points on a compass, such as northeast or southwest

Key (noun) An explanation of abbreviations or symbols used on a map, sometimes called a legend

Latitude (noun) The distance north or south of the Equator, measured in degrees

Longitude (noun) The distance east or west of the prime meridian, measured in degrees

Prime meridian (noun) The imaginary line that runs north-south around the middle of Earth

Types of Maps

Economic Map: This type of map displays information about the resources available across a certain area or the way the land is used to support the local economy. Look for symbols or colors representing crops or industries.

Physical Map: This type of map is focused on the natural features of a certain area. Look for labeled bodies of water like rivers, lakes and oceans and labeled landforms like mountains, valleys, hills, and plateaus.

Political Map: This type of map shows how people have organized the land and water in a certain area. Look for dashed or solid lines representing boundaries and borders between states, towns and, countries. Dots of different sizes may mark towns and cities.

Road Map: This type of map shows how people have added to land and water to make it easier to transport people and goods. Look for highways, bridges, and railroad tracks on this type of map.

Thematic Map: This type of map provides information on a specific topic and how it relates to a certain area by adding a layer of data to a base map. For example, a population density map might use different colors to show which towns have more people living in them than others.

Topographical Map: This type of map shows the shape of the land and how the elevation, or the height of the land, changes across a certain area. Look for shading that creates the effect of raised land, or changes in color on the map as the land rises up above sea level.