

Spring 1 – Geography



Key Vocabulary		
sketch map	A simple map with only basic details.	
key	Helps us understand map symbols. Also known as a legend.	
compass rose	This is printed on a map to show different directions.	
map symbol	A picture or a sign on a map that represents something else.	
Ordnance Survey	A survey organisation in the UK which prepares very detailed maps of the country.	
route	A way of getting from a start point to a finish point.	
compass	A tool which shows people which direction they are travelling in and helps them find their way.	
climate	The usual weather conditions of an area.	

What Is a Map?

A map is a drawing of an actual place that uses lines and symbols to represent real-life objects. People have used maps for hundreds of years to help them travel from place to place.

Types of Maps

There are many different types of maps, such as:

Sketch maps

Road maps

Ordnance Survey maps

Climate maps

Key Features	Compass Directions	Planning a Route
Key features of maps include: a title, a compass rose, symbols, a key and different colours for important things, such as green for forests and blue for rivers.	People use a compass to help them position and use a map acurately. The main points of a compass are north, south, east and west.	When planning a journey using a map, people think about the quickest or safest route.
Woodland River Moor Land Viewpoint Lake Castle Contour Line Church Road Water Fowl Woodland Boundary	A P	5 6



Spring 1 – Geography



Key Vocabul	ur 9	
atlas	A collection of maps in one book.	
continent	A very large area of land that includes all the islands with it. There are seven continents: Africa, Antarctica, Australasia, Asia, Europe, North America and South America.	
ocean	A large area of salt water. There are five oceans: the Arctic, Atlantic, Indian, Pacific and Southern Oceans.	
physical feature	A feature that has been formed by nature.	
aerial view	A view from above. Also known as a 'bird's-eye' view.	
human feature	A feature that has been made or changed by humans, e.g. bridges.	

Using an Atlas

An atlas shows maps of continents, countries, oceans and the physical features of a place. Its contents page shows a list of all the maps and the page that they can be found on.

The index page lists, in alphabetical order, all of the countries, cities and towns that can be found in the atlas and shows which page number to look on.

Did you know?

A map maker is called a cartographer.

The oldest maps were made on clay tablets.



Physical Features	An Aerial View	More About Maps
Atlases show us the physical features of a place. These can include forests, lakes and rivers. On the index page beside the page number, there is sometimes a letter that tells you the kind of feature it is, e.g. m = mountain and r= river.	Maps are usually drawn from an aerial view. We can look at aerial photographs to see the main physical and human features of places. Aerial photos are photos taken by aircraft or other flying objects, e.g. drones. A satellite photo is taken	Did You Know? Maps cannot possibly show everything. They are drawn to scale. Seas are smaller areas of water than oceans. They are found where the land and water meet.
	from a satellite in space.	Marin