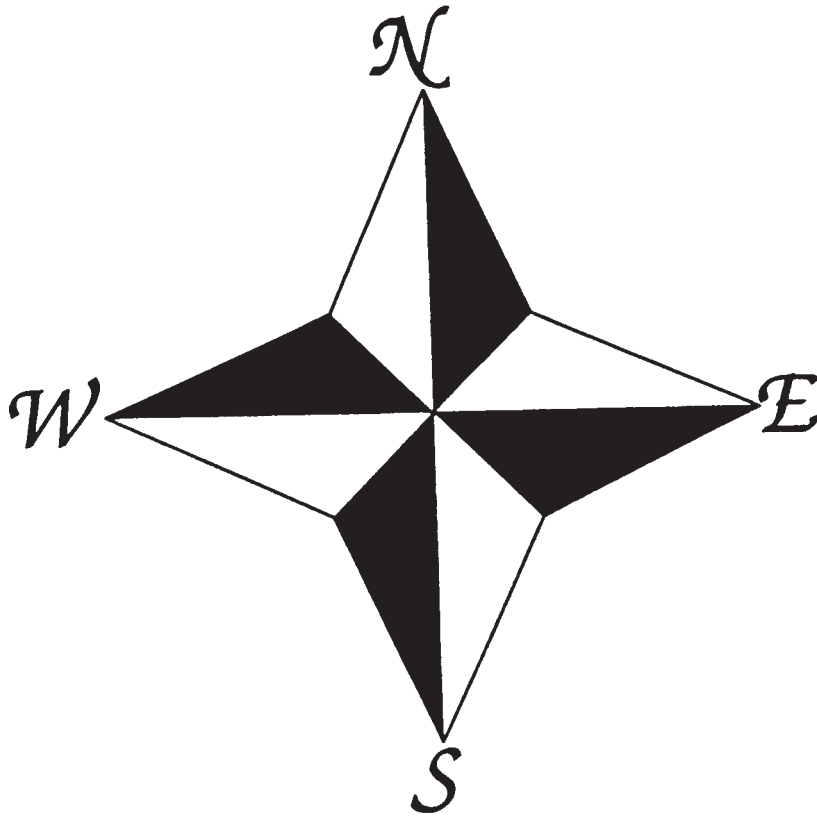


Beginning Map Skills



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What Is a Map?

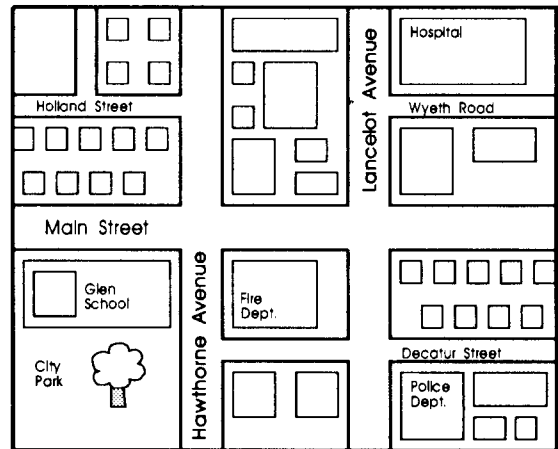
A *map* is a picture that shows us a place. The place a map shows us can be anywhere! A map can be drawn of our room, our street, our school, our city, our country, our world, or our solar system. A map can show us what it looks like in our bodies, under a city, or beneath the ocean. We can even make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

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

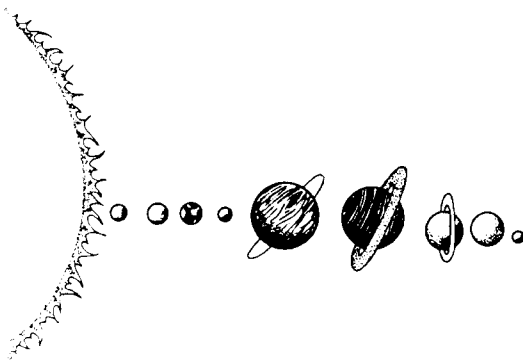
room	city	world
school	country	solar system
street	body	pretend world



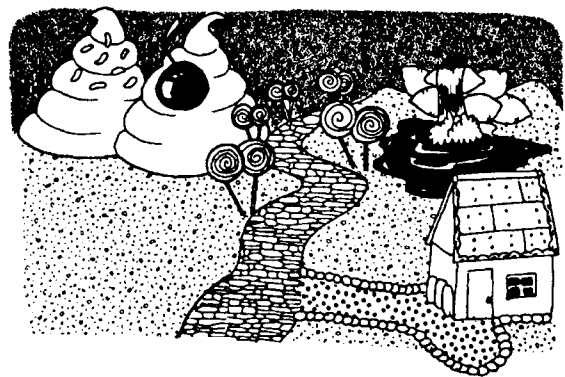
1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

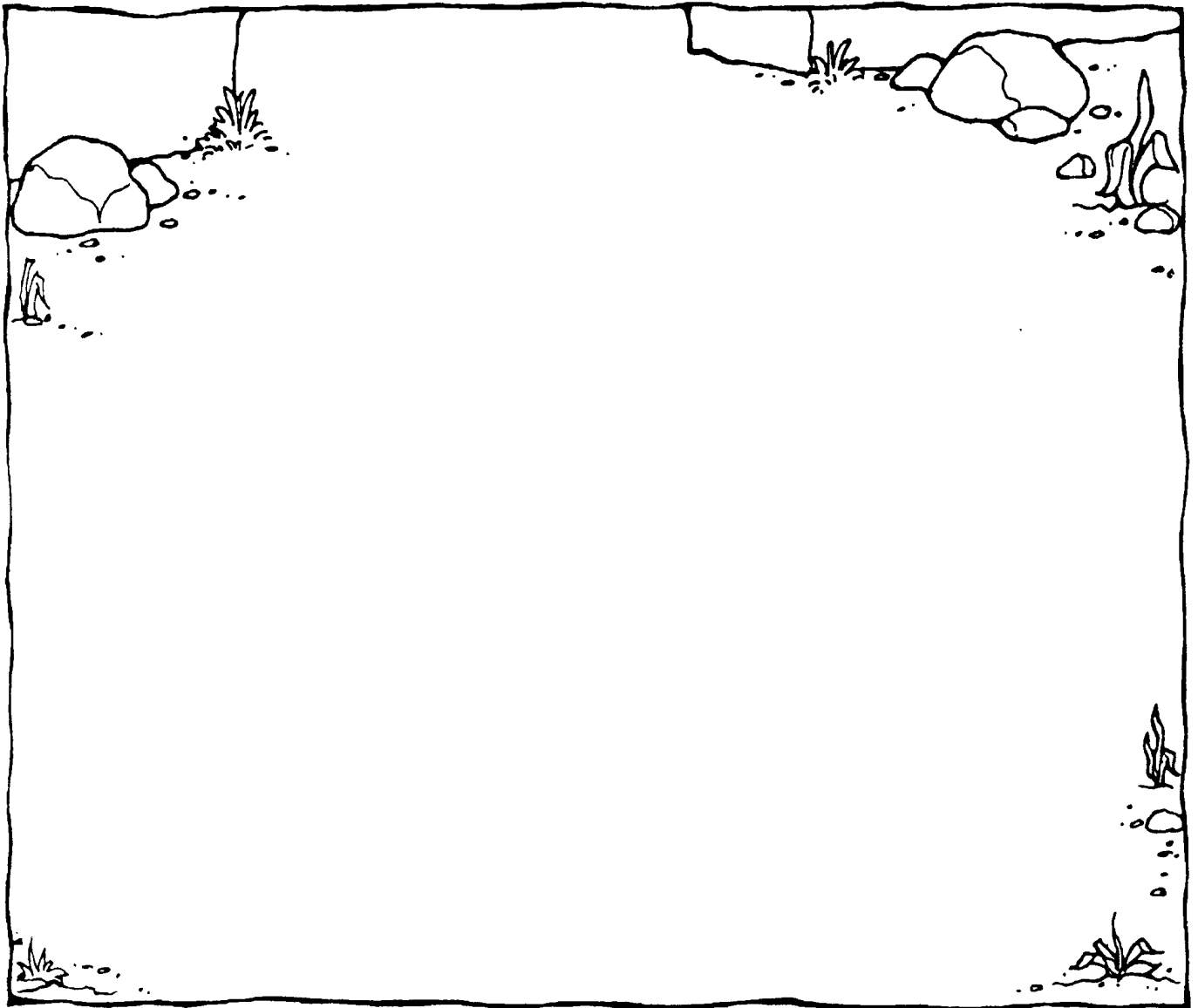


4. _____

Early Maps

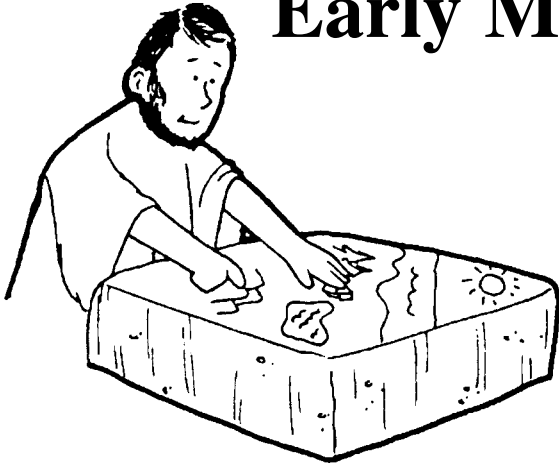
Suppose you live in a time long, long ago. You decide to go to a special spot to play and want your friend to come with you. But your friend is not awake and you don't want to wait. Your friend's mother suggests you leave your friend a note outside the entrance to the cave.

You can not write and your friend can not read, but you can draw and your friend can understand pictures. The spot where you want to play is next to the tall oak 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.



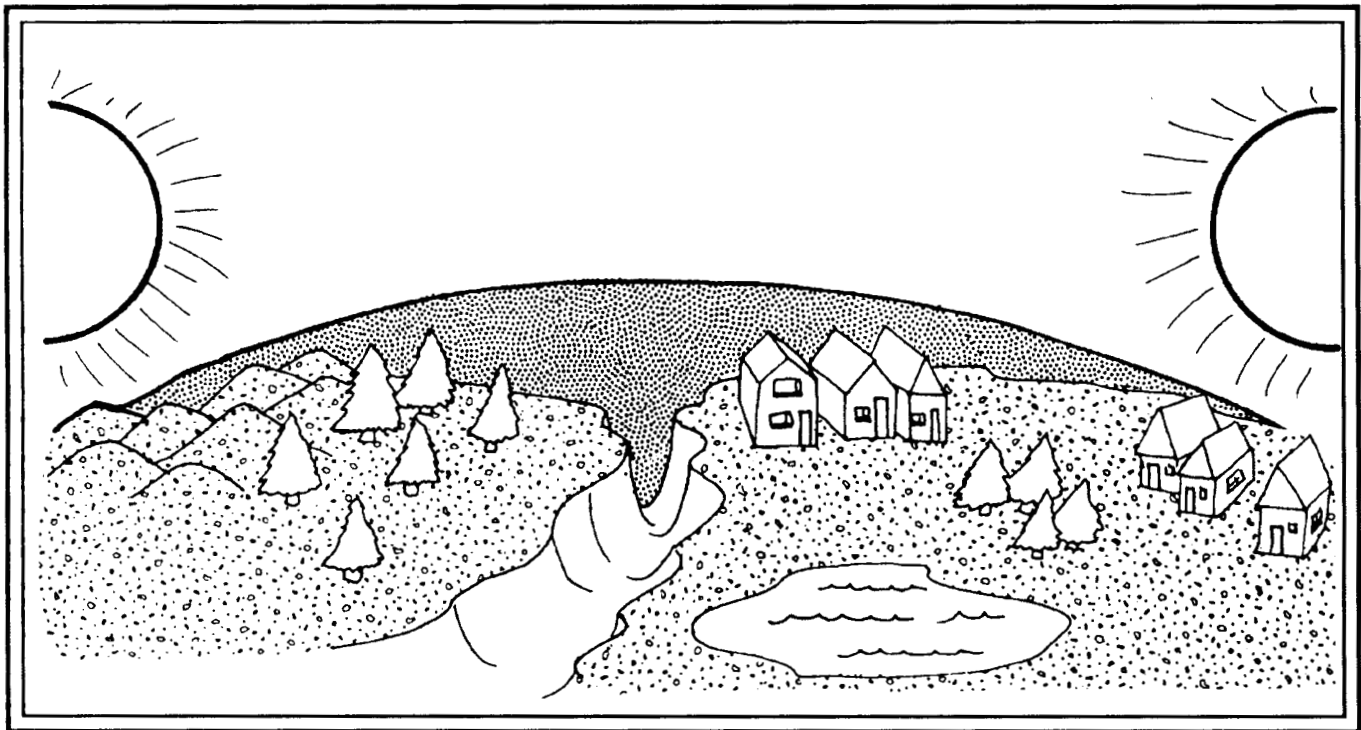
Early maps were made like this. Sometimes they were drawn in dirt or carved in tree bark. Sometimes they were marked in clay or chiseled in stone. All these early maps told people who drew or read them something about their world.

Early Maps Get Better



Early maps, like those made in dirt, bark, clay, or stone, helped people know more about where they were or wanted to be.

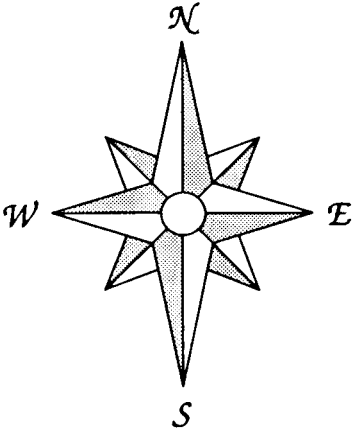
As time went on, mapmakers wanted to make better maps. They began to use the position of the sun to help them place things on their maps. For example, one town may be more toward the sun at sunrise than another. The lake was always on the right side of the sunrise. The forest was on the sunset side of the canyon. Early mapmakers began to place things according to direction. We know these directions as *north*, *south*, *east*, and *west*.



As maps became better, people began to use them more. They wanted maps that could be more easily carried than the maps made on clay or treebark. Maps were made on animal skins and on cloth. You might be interested to know that the word map comes from the Latin word *mappa*. *Mappa* means napkin or cloth. Later, after paper was invented, maps were made on paper.

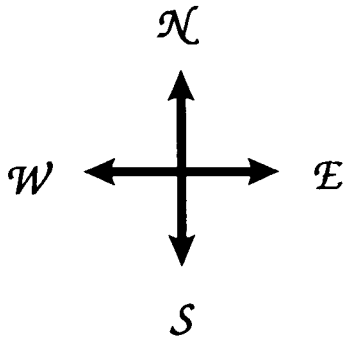
Can you think of some things to draw maps on?

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	 mountains
 capital	 river
 road	 forest
	 lake

Scale



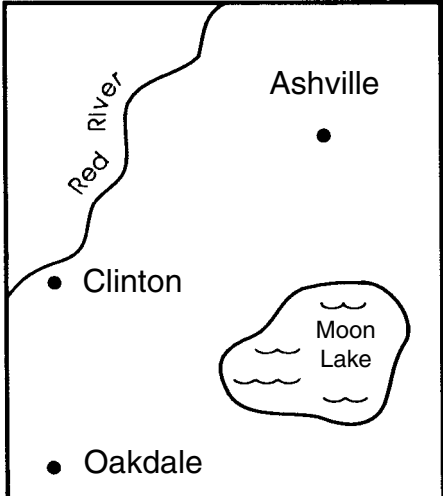
1 inch = 1 mile

OR



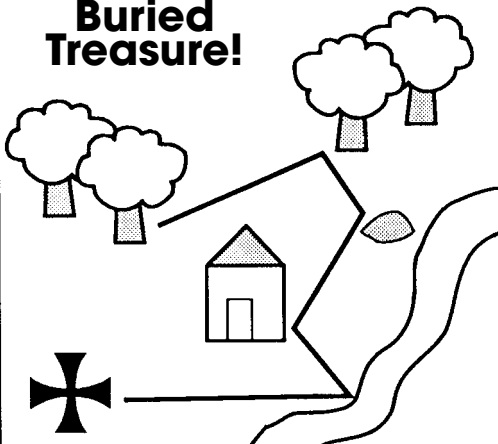
1 centimeter = 1 kilometer

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.

Buried Treasure!



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

Can you name the parts of a map?