GEOGRAPHY
Freebie Sample
by Jill Russ

Parts of a Map

Informational Text and Foldable
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~Jill

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Standards Addressed

Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards

**SS.3.A.1.3** Define terms related to the social sciences.

**SS.3.G.1.2** Review basic map elements (coordinate grid, cardinal and intermediate directions, title, compass rose, scale, key/legend with symbols).

**SS.3.G.1.6** Use maps to identify different types of scale to measure distances between two places.

National Geography Standards

**NSS-G.K-12.1** THE WORLD IN SPATIAL TERMS
Understand how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.

Understand how to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on Earth’s surface.
Thanks for trying out my freebie!

This freebie is two pages out of my larger “Geography: Learning about Places” unit. This freebie includes one page of informational text and one foldable. The entire unit includes 8-pages of informational text about maps, globes, types of maps, parts of maps, and the advantages and disadvantages of maps and globes. The complete unit also has a unit test and student study guide along with twelve pieces for students can use either in a lapbook or in their interactive social studies notebooks.

Click here to check it out in my TPT store!
Using the Freebie

Directions for Foldable

You will need to print one copy of page 7 for each student.

Cut out the large rectangle around the outside edges.

Cut on the short solid lines in between each word.

Fold the rectangle in half along the dotted line.

Students can glue the foldable in their interactive notebook. Then they will lift each flap to write about each map element.
Parts of a Map

All maps have certain basic parts. Every map has a **title** that tells what the map is about. Every map will have a **compass rose**, too. The compass rose shows direction. The compass rose helps you match the direction of the piece of paper to the actual direction on the Earth.

**Cardinal directions** are the four main parts on a compass: north, south, east, and west. On most maps, the top arrow points to north and the bottom arrow points to south. West is on the left side, and east is on the right side. The points in between the cardinal directions are called intermediate directions. The **intermediate directions** are northwest, northeast, southwest, and southeast.

The objects on a map are shown using colors or **symbols**. Symbols are pictures on a map that stand for something in the real world. Maps use symbols to show many things in a small space. Symbols make maps easy to read.

The **map key** shows what symbols on the map mean. The key is usually in a box in the bottom corner of the map. Mountains may be marked with little triangles. A blue line might represent a road or a river. The key shows a small picture of each symbol used on the map along with the meaning of each symbol.