

Map It Out

Elements of a Map

Chrissy Waldhoer, Laura Halstied
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Grade Level	4th Grade	**Time Frame**	1-3 class period(s)
Subject	Social Studies		

Essential Question

What is the purpose of a map?

Summary

In this lesson, students examine a map of Oklahoma and complete a scavenger hunt to find objects on the map. Students learn important map-related vocabulary and extend their learning by creating a map of the classroom. Learning is assessed when students answer a reflection question.

Snapshot

Engage

Examine a map of Oklahoma using the strategy I Notice, I Wonder.

Explore

Complete a scavenger hunt using a map of Oklahoma.

Explain

Define vocabulary terms using a Vocabulary Foldable Map.

Extend

Create a map of the classroom.

Evaluate

Reflect on the lesson content by using the strategy What Did I Learn Today?

Standards

Oklahoma Academic Standards (Social Studies Practices (4th Grade))

4.2.1: Use maps and other geographic representations(such as globes and graphs), tools, and technologies to acquire, process,and report information from a spatial perspective.
4.2.1A: Use and describe various elements of maps, including keys/legends, scale, cardinal,and intermediate directions.

Attachments

- JAVITS OK Map-Map It Out.docx
- JAVITS OK Map-Map It Out.pdf
- Lesson-Slides-Map-It-Out.pptx
- Vocabulary Foldable-Map It Out.docx
- Vocabulary Foldable-Map It Out.pdf

Materials

- Lesson Slides (attached)
- Map of Oklahoma (attached, one per pair of students)
- Vocabulary Foldable Map (attached, one per student)
- Blank copy paper (one per student)
- Notebook paper (one per student)
- Sticky Notes (several per student)
- Colored pencils or crayons
- Scissors
- Glue or glue sticks

15 minutes

Engage

Lesson Preparation

Print the attached map of the State of Oklahoma for students to use during the Engage and Explore portions of the lesson. If possible, laminate the maps so they are more durable and can be reused. Have colored pencils or crayons available for the Extend portion of the lesson.

Optional Tech Integration

If students have devices, maps can be shared digitally with students.

Use the attached **Lesson Slides** to guide the lesson. Place students in pairs and pass out the attached **JAVITS OK Map-Map It Out** handout to each pair of students. Display **slide 3** to introduce the Essential Question, "What is the purpose of a map?" and **slide 4** that introduces the Lesson Objective: "Explain the elements of a map."

Show **slide 5.** Introduce students to the I Notice, I Wonder strategy. Explain to students that, as they view the map on **slide 6**, they should think about two things they notice and two things they wonder about the map.

Move to **slide 6**. Provide time for students to examine the map. Ask students to talk with their partners about what they notice and wonder. Ask for a few volunteers to share their thoughts about the map.

20 minutes

Explore

Move to **slide 7.** Have students find the items listed in the Map Scavenger Hunt by using the map of Oklahoma handout.

- Provide time for students to work through each item with a partner.
- Instruct them to label and mark their answers on the map with sticky notes.
- Ask for volunteers to share with the class information they have located on the map, correcting misconceptions as needed.

30 minutes

Explain

Pass out the attached **Vocabulary Foldable** handout to each student. Use **slide 8** and **slide 9** to provide the vocabulary definitions for students, or if possible, let students look up the definitions in a social studies textbook or online using personal devices.

Have students go to **slide 10** for instructions to plan activity. After students have defined the vocabulary words individually, have them look at the Map of Oklahoma again, and find each of the vocabulary words on the map.

Use this time to further explain the importance of the *key*, *scale*, and *compass rose*. Explain to students that many compass roses do not list all four cardinal directions, only north.

Teach students an acronym to remember the cardinal directions, such as, "Never Eat Soggy Watermelon." Explain to students that intermediate directions go between the cardinal directions. Have students create their own compass rose with cardinal and intermediate directions on the Vocabulary Foldable.

Foldable Instructions

The Vocabulary Foldable should be cut out after students add the definitions. Instruct students to cut out both parts of the foldable, then apply glue behind the area with definitions to notebook paper. Apply glue behind the tab that says "Elements of a Map" and adhere to the "gluing tab" portion, which is noted on the foldable. If student notebooks are used in class, have students adhere the Vocabulary Foldable to their notebooks.

30 minutes

Extend

Move to **slide 10**. Pass out a piece of blank copy paper to each student. Ask students to create a map of the classroom and include the information listed on the slide. Consider having students create a rough copy on a piece of notebook paper before creating their final map on copy paper.

Encourage students to use colored pencils or crayons. Remind students to use symbols to represent classroom objects and to list the symbols in the key.

Consider creating a scale for the map as a class by designating the distance as ¼ inch = 1 foot. Provide time for students to create a map of the classroom individually and then have students compare their maps with a partner.

Lesson Extension

Consider contacting the Oklahoma Alliance for Geographic Education to borrow a giant traveling map at no cost. Refer to OKAGE's website for map and reservation information.

Optional Extension for Gifted and Talented Students

Have students navigate to Google Earth on personal devices and search the name of their school, including city and state. Tell students to view the school in the 3D overhead view and examine the layout of the school buildings and grounds. Have students sketch a map of their school using the overhead view and label the main areas of the school. Include a compass rose, key, and title. After sketching the map, have students walk outside and around the school to see if their map matches the layout of the school.

5 minutes

Evaluate

Display **slide 11**. Provide each student with a sticky note or use notebook paper. Using the What Did I Learn Today? strategy, ask students to write a short summary of the information they have learned during the lesson. Collect the sticky notes or notebook paper as well as the student-created classroom maps to assess student understanding of the lesson content.

Resources

- Collins Dictionary. Definition of "map scale." https://www.collinsdictionary.com/us/submission/12477/%E2%80%9Cmap+scale%E2%80%9D
- K20 Center. (n.d.). I Notice, I Wonder. Strategies. https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/180
- K20 Center. (n.d.). What Did I Learn Today? Strategies. https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/169
- Google Earth. (n.d.). https://earth.google.com/web/
- Merriam-Webster. (n.d.). Legend Definition & Meaning. https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/legend
- Nationsonline.org. (n.d.). *Map of the U.S. state of Oklahoma*. Nations Online Project. https://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/map/USA/oklahoma_map.htm
- Oklahoma Alliance of Geographic Education (OKAGE). (n.d.). Giant traveling maps. http://okageweb.org/giant-traveling-maps
- The Free Dictionary. Farlex. (n.d.). Compass Rose. https://www.thefreedictionary.com/compass+rose