

# Making a Map

## Getting Started

When you think of a map, you might think of different elements, like a grid, a compass, a scale, a key, symbols, and labels that show how different things relate to each other. However, the most important part of a map is its purpose. The purpose of a map drives choices such as the scale and what information to include.

Use this page to plan your map and then draw it on the back.

## Purpose

How will your map be used?

It might help to start with one of these verbs:

**find navigate study document teach**

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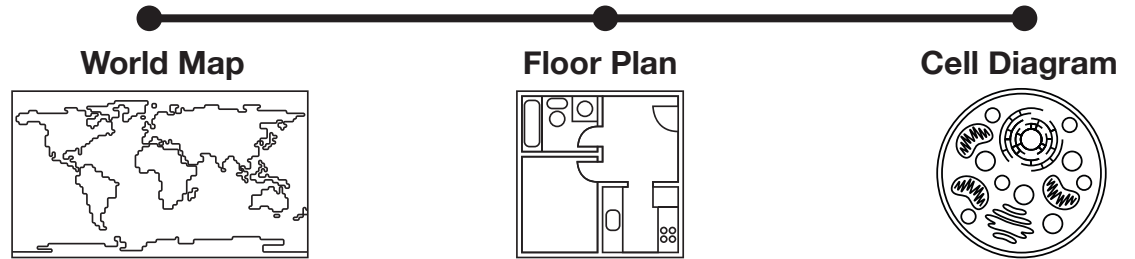
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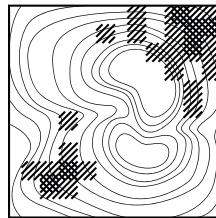
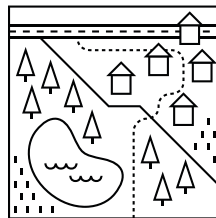
## Extent and Scale

Map extent is the area that your map shows, and that area must be scaled to the size of your map.

What will the extent of your map be? \_\_\_\_\_



Scale describes the size that real-life objects appear on a map. It is often written as a ratio, but can also be descriptive—like *one square equals a city block*.



## Map Data

Map data is the information that your map includes, like points of interest, boundaries, physical features, and statistics.

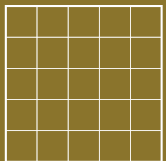
What information will you include in your map?

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**Want to do more?** Place a piece of clear plastic over your map and assign a color to each type of surface. Now try coloring the squares of the grid with just one color each. These squares are similar to the pixels that make up satellite imagery.



Title and Description

Creator

Date

SCALE

=

KEY

