

The development of map skills: Sequence

Average age	Using Reading Interpreting	Position and orientation	Drawing	Symbols	Perspective (viewpoint)	Scale	Map purpose and style
Nursery R Y1 3-5 yrs	Talk about own picture maps. Identify local features on aerial photograph.	Point to places can see. Follow directions - up, down, left, right. Match pictures on grid.	Draw picture maps with labels of places they know, or imaginary or from stories.	Use own symbols. Recognise plan shapes e.g. fee can be symbols.	Use models to get different view points. Draw round objects 1:1 to get plan view.	Recognise and name things bigger, smaller, longer, shorter, like, unlike.	Take from and add information to picture maps in story and atlas. Use globes and match with wall maps and pictures.
Y1 & Y2 6-7 yrs	Follow a route on prepared maps and find information. Find information from aerial photograph. Begin explaining why and how.	Introduce 4 cardinal points. Point and draw arrow maps in classroom. Develop locational vocabulary. Introduce simple grids.	Make a representation of a real or imaginary place. Freehand maps of gardens, watery places, route maps, places in stories.	Use own and class agreed symbols on maps. Practise plan views to use. Realise need for key.	Look down on objects to make plan e.g. on desk, high window to playground. Look at large scale vertical aerial photograph.	Draw objects on table or tray to scale using squared paper 1:1 first, then 1:2 and so on.	Use teacher prepared maps. Large scale street maps and large scale OS maps (1:1250. 1:2500). Understand purpose of map to show 'where'. Games with maps and globes.
Y3 & Y4 7-9 yrs	Use large scale map outside. Use maps of other places. Test each other with route maps. Locate photos of features. Use oblique aerial views.	Use simple grids. Add direction instructions up to 8 cardinal points. Practise to improve speed and accuracy. Use 4-figure co-ordinates to locate features.	Make a map of a short route with features in correct order. Make map of small area with features in correct places.	Give maps a key with standard symbols. Start using OS style symbols. Use plan view regularly.	Look at smaller scale aerial view. Look at view from high place. Use computer program to reinforce.	Simple scale plan of room with whole numbers e.g. $1 \text{ sq.cm} = 1 \text{ square tile on the floor}$ $1 \text{cm}^2 = 1 \text{m}^2$ Use scale bar on atlas maps. Use paces or tape outside.	Start giving maps a title to show purpose. Use thematic maps. Use atlas maps and globe. Use OS maps 1:1250, 1:2500 and 1:10000
Y5 & Y6 9-11 yrs	Relate map to vertical aerial photograph. Relate maps to each other. Follow routes on maps saying what is seen.	Use 4 & 6 figure co-ordinates to locate features. Know directions in neighbourhood. Align map with route.	Make sketch maps of area using symbols and key. Make plan for garden, play park, with scale.	Use agreed and OS symbols. Appreciate maps cannot show everything.	Develop using higher viewpoints up to satellite. Use models to introduce contours and slope.	Use a scale bar on all maps. Use linear scale to measure rivers.	Move to OS 1:10.000 and 1:25.000 maps Use index and contents page of atlas. Use thematic maps for specific purposes. Realise purpose, scale, symbols and style are related.
Able Y6	Follow route on 1:50.000 OS map. Describe features seen and relate to each other. Interpret relief.	Use 6-figure grid references. Align map. Use latitude and longitude in atlas.	Design maps from descriptions. Draw thematic maps e.g. local open spaces. Draw scale plans.	Use standard symbols. Know 1:50.000 symbols and atlas symbols.	Develop understanding of height and slope with map and field work, maps and photographs (contours).	Read and compare map scales. Draw measured plans e.g. from field data.	Appreciate different map projections. Interpret distribution maps and use thematic maps for information.