

Journey

Around the Nation

Activities to Develop Geography and Social Studies Skills

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Map Skills

All Kinds of Maps!

Here is a brainstorming activity for you to complete! Within ten minutes, list as many different kinds of maps as you can! Think of the many ways in which you and your family have been helped by maps. After the time is up, circle your most unusual answer.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____

Map Skills

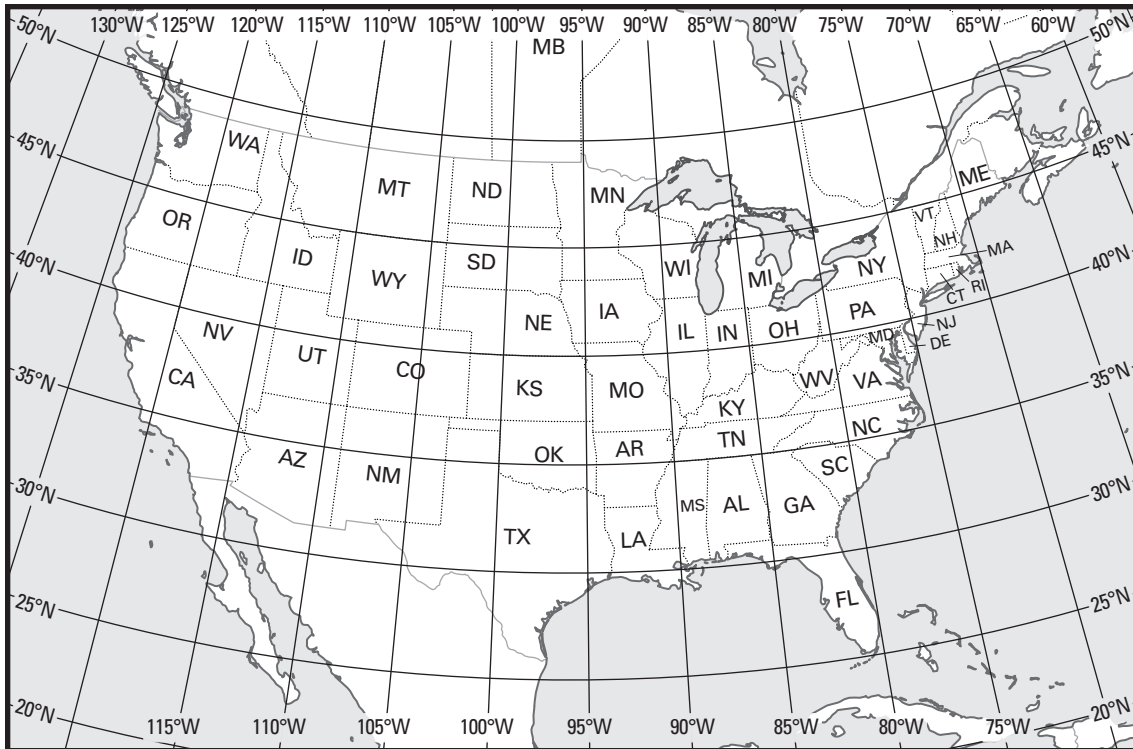
Be a Map Detective

The lines of latitude and longitude help us to accurately locate places on a map. Latitude lines run east and west. The most important latitude line is the equator, which is halfway between the North and South Poles and is numbered 0 degrees. The other lines of latitude show distances that are north and south of the equator. Longitude lines run north and south. The most important longitude line is the prime meridian.

Figure out which states are being described by the following latitude and longitude locations. Use the map to help you. (Note: ° = degrees)

Example: 30° north latitude, 100° west longitude would be Texas.

1. 105° west longitude, 35° north latitude _____
2. 95° west longitude, 45° north latitude _____
3. 120° west longitude, 45° north latitude _____
4. 85° west longitude, 45° north latitude _____
5. 118° west longitude, 35° north latitude _____



Creative Thinking

What State Am I?

Here is a riddle about a state in the U.S.A. The first clue is GENERAL and the fourth clue is more SPECIFIC. Try to solve the riddle and then create two of your own! Share your riddles with your classmates.

CLUE #1: Cattle and sheep are important in this state.

CLUE #2: One fourth of the nation's oil is produced here.

CLUE #3: The Alamo and the Rio Grande are here.

CLUE #4: The "Lone Star State" became the 28th state.

What state am I?



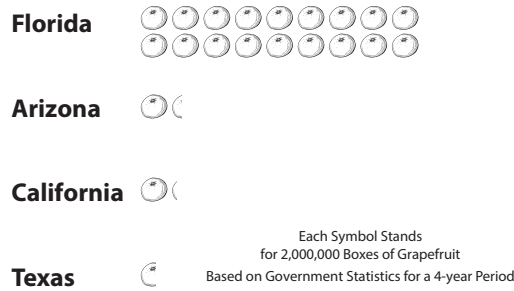
Creative Thinking

Chart Your Answers!

Graphs and charts contain information that can be read quickly. One type of graph is called a pictograph. In a pictograph, pictures are used in place of numbers. Look at the example below. It charts the grapefruit production of the U.S.A. Each grapefruit symbol represents 2,000,000 boxes of grapefruit. According to this graph, Florida is the leading producer.

Pictograph

Four Leading Grapefruit States



Another type of graph is called the **bar graph**. This type of graph can be used to show a great variety of facts. The example below shows the amount of oil production in the leading states. The numbers on the left indicate millions of barrels.

Can you create your own graph to show information? Use facts from your research about your state or compare several states. Do your work on another sheet of paper.

Bar Graph

Oil Production by Leading States

