

Finn's Geography Challenge: Understanding Maps

Learning objective: To identify map symbols, use grid references, and understand key map features.

Read each question carefully. Use the word bank to help you. Fill in the boxes with your answers. If you need help, look at the symbols on your desk map.

Finn the dolphin is exploring a new coastline. He uses a map to find his way. The map shows him where the sandy beaches, rocky cliffs, and deep blue bays are. He uses a special key to understand the pictures on his map.

Word bank: Compass · Key · Grid · Symbol · North · Scale · Map

1. Finn uses a tool to find the right direction. What is the name of the tool that always points to the North? (2 marks)

2. Look at the map key. Why do we use symbols on a map instead of drawing real houses or trees? (3 marks)

3. Finn is at grid reference B2. If he moves one square to the right, what is his new grid reference? (2 marks)

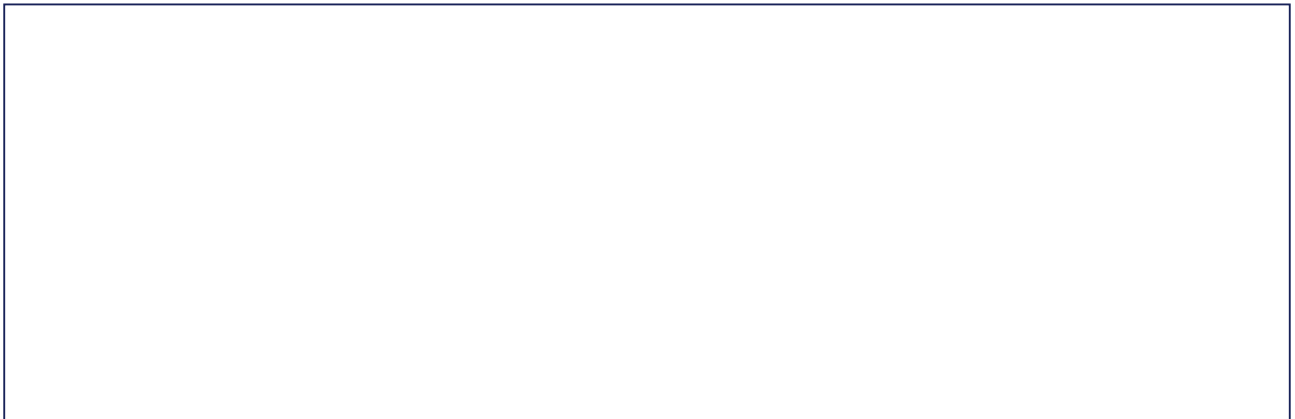
4. Match these map features to their job. Draw a line or write the letter: A) Scale, B) Key. 1) Explains what symbols mean. 2) Shows how far away places are. (4 marks)

5. Imagine you are drawing a map of your school playground. List three symbols you would include in your map key and explain what they show. (5 marks)

6. Finn wants to go from the Lighthouse (A1) to the Beach (C3). Describe the route he takes using grid squares. (4 marks)

7. What does the letter 'N' on a compass rose tell us? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a simple map of a park. Include a path, a pond, and a tree. Make sure you add a key to show what each drawing means.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: If 1cm on your map equals 10 metres in real life, how far is it if your map distance is 5cm?