

Mastering Grid References with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To understand how to use four-figure grid references to locate features on a map.

Read each flashcard carefully to learn the rules of grid references. Use Finn the Dolphin's tips to help you remember how to navigate the map grid.

What is a grid reference?

A set of numbers used to help you find a specific location on a map.

What is an Easting?

The lines that run from top to bottom on a map; you read these first by moving along the bottom of the map.

What is a Northing?

The lines that run from left to right on a map; you read these second by moving up the side of the map.

Finn says: 'Walk before you climb!' What does this mean for grid references?

It means you must move along the bottom line (Easting) before you move up the side line (Northing).

How many numbers are in a four-figure grid reference?

Four numbers (two for the Easting and two for the Northing).

If a symbol is in the square between Easting lines 12 and 13, and Northing lines 45 and 46, what is the grid reference?

1245.

True or False: The grid reference points to the bottom-left corner of the grid square.

True.

Why do we use grid lines on maps?

They create a grid system that makes it easier to describe exactly where a place or object is located.

If you are at 2030 and you move one square to the right, what is your new grid reference?

2130.

If you are at 2030 and you move one square up, what is your new grid reference?

2031.

What part of the map helps you understand what the symbols inside the grid squares mean?

The map key (or legend).

Finn is mapping a coral reef. If the reef is in grid square 0505, which two numbers do you look for on the bottom axis?

05.