

Mapping the Wilds with Finn the Explorer

Learning objective: To develop cartographic skills by creating a thematic map including symbols, a compass rose, and a scale.

Follow the steps below to design a map of 'Discovery Island'. Ensure your map is clear, accurate, and includes all necessary geographical features.

Draw: Create a detailed cartographic representation of Discovery Island. Use a bird's-eye view perspective (plan view). The style should be professional and clear, similar to an Ordnance Survey map. Include a shaded relief for the mountains, blue lines for rivers, and green textures for woodland areas. Ensure your compass rose is placed in a clear area, and your map key is neatly boxed in one corner of the page.



Label words: Compass Rose · Scale · Key/Legend · Contour Lines · Latitude · Longitude · Ordnance Survey Symbol · Topography

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large, irregular shape to represent the island. Label the northern coast and the southern bay. Why is it important to include a North-seeking arrow (compass rose) on every map?
2. Step 2: Add a mountain range in the centre. Use contour lines to show the elevation. Explain why contour lines are essential for hikers planning a route.

3. Step 3: Create a map key in the corner of your page. Include symbols for a forest, a sandy beach, and a freshwater stream. Justify your choice of symbols; why should they be simple and distinct?
4. Step 4: Draw a scale bar at the bottom of your map. If 1cm on your map represents 1km in real life, calculate the distance between the beach and the mountain peak if they are 5cm apart on your drawing.
5. Step 5: Label the lines of latitude and longitude on your map. What might happen if a map does not have a set scale or coordinate system?
6. Step 6: Compare and contrast a physical map, which shows natural features, with a political map. Which would Finn find more useful for his ocean navigation and why?