

Mapping the World with Finn the Dolphin

Navigate Your World: Master the Map and Chart Your Path!

- Four-figure grid references identify a specific square on a map, whereas six-figure grid references pinpoint a precise location within that square by dividing it into tenths.
- The map scale acts as a ratio; for example, a scale of 1:25,000 means that one centimetre on the map represents 25,000 centimetres, or 250 metres, in the real world.
- Contour lines are imaginary lines on a map that connect points of equal elevation; when these lines are packed closely together, they indicate a very steep slope or cliff face.
- Latitude and longitude lines form an invisible global coordinate system, allowing explorers to identify any position on Earth using degrees, minutes, and seconds.
- A map's key, or legend, is essential for decoding symbols that represent physical features such as woodland, motorways, or water sources, ensuring the map remains uncluttered and readable.

Did you know? Did you know that the word 'cartography' comes from the Latin 'charta', meaning a sheet of paper or tablet? Before satellites, mapmakers like Finn had to sail across vast oceans, manually measuring distances by counting the rotations of a trailing log—a piece of wood attached to a rope—to calculate the ship's speed and position!

Key vocabulary: Grid Reference · Contour Lines · Cartography · Scale · Latitude · Longitude · Key/Legend · Topographical