

Max's Magnificent Map of Coordinates

Master the Map: Where will you find your treasure today?

- The x-axis is the horizontal line at the bottom. Always remember to walk along the corridor (x) before you climb up the stairs (y).
- The y-axis is the vertical line. The point where the two axes meet is called the origin and is always marked as (0,0).
- Coordinates are written in brackets as a pair of numbers, for example (3, 5). The first number is your position on the x-axis, and the second is your position on the y-axis.
- A translation means moving a shape across the grid without turning it. You describe this by saying how many squares it moves left or right, and then up or down.
- A reflection creates a mirror image of a shape across a mirror line. The shape stays the same size, but its orientation is flipped.

Did you know? Did you know? The grid system we use for coordinates is called a Cartesian plane, named after the French mathematician René Descartes. Legend says he was inspired to create the system while watching a fly crawl across his ceiling, helping him describe exactly where the fly was at any moment!

Key vocabulary: x-axis · y-axis · origin · coordinates · quadrant · translation · reflection · vertex