

Map Basics

Earth Science

Mr. Traeger

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____
Partner's Name: _____

Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to become acquainted with the basic concepts of maps, namely latitude and longitude.

Materials

- Place Mat+map of the world or Google Earth®
- Your textbook
- Metric Ruler & Pencil

Part A: Map Basics

Answer the questions that follow.

1. What is a map?
2. Are maps as accurate as a globe? Why or why not?
3. Draw the four cardinal directions below. Hint: **Never Eat Soggy Waffles**. Also give compass numbers in degrees.

4. What is a hemisphere?	If you look at a globe, how many hemispheres are there on the Earth?

5. In mapping, what is a degree? How many kilometers are equal to a degree?	How many minutes in a degree?	How many seconds in a minute?

6. What is latitude?	What axis would you use to measure latitude if you were in math class? x or y ?	How many degrees of latitude are there on the Earth north or south of the equator?

7. What is longitude?	What axis would you use to measure longitude if you were in math class? x or y ?	How many degrees of longitude are there on the Earth east or west of the prime meridian?

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8. Where is the equator?	What is the latitude at the equator?	What is the longitude at the equator? Careful here: tricky question

9. Where is the prime meridian?	What is the latitude at the prime meridian? Careful here: tricky question	What is the longitude at the prime meridian?

Part B: Finding Yourself Using Latitude and Longitude Coordinates

Use the place mat+map on your desk or Google Earth® to find yourself. Fill in the blanks as necessary.

City or Place	Latitude (° North or South)	Longitude (° East or West)
1.	34° North	118° West
2. Anchorage, Alaska		
3. Auckland, New Zealand		
4.	30° North	90° West
5.	90° South	60° East
6.	90° North	60° West
7. Seoul, South Korea		
8. Honolulu, Hawaii		
9.	32° South	150° East
10. London, England		
11.	0° North	80° West

12. What is the exact latitude and longitude of room 311 at La Cañada High School? Use Google Earth® to find this.

Latitude	Longitude

13. What is the exact latitude and longitude of your house? Use Google Earth® to find this.

Latitude	Longitude