

## GEOGRAPHY · GRADES 5–6

# Longitude and Latitude

How we map the world

## Key terms

1

**Latitude**

Lines that go EAST-WEST around the Earth (parallel to the Equator).

*Example:  $0^\circ$  = Equator.  $90^\circ$  N = North Pole.*

2

**Longitude**

Lines that go NORTH-SOUTH from pole to pole.

*Example:  $0^\circ$  = Prime Meridian (Greenwich).  $180^\circ$  = International Date Line.*

3

**Equator**

$0^\circ$  latitude — divides Earth into Northern and Southern hemispheres.

*Example: Passes through Brazil, Kenya, Indonesia.*

4

**Prime Meridian**

$0^\circ$  longitude — divides Earth into Eastern and Western hemispheres.

*Example: Passes through the UK, France, Spain, Algeria, Ghana.*

5

**Coordinates**

A pair of numbers — latitude FIRST, then longitude — that locates a place.

*Example: ( $40.7^\circ$  N,  $74.0^\circ$  W) = New York City.*

## Apply

1. What is the latitude of the Equator?



2. Which line of longitude is the same as  $0^\circ$ ?
3. If a place has latitude  $35^\circ$  N and longitude  $139^\circ$  E, which big city is nearby?
4. Which hemispheres is your country in (Northern/Southern, Eastern/Western)?

