

SOCIAL STUDIES · GRADE 2

# Map Skills

How to read a map

## Three tools every map has

1

### Compass rose

Shows direction. North is at the top.

*Example: N at top, S bottom, W left, E right.*

2

### Key (legend)

Tells you what symbols on the map mean.

*Example: ★ = capital, ▲ = mountain, ~ = river.*

3

### Scale

Tells you how distances on the map relate to real distances.

*Example: 1 cm on the map = 1 km in real life.*

## Imagine a map of your town

1. What direction is the school from your house?
2. Draw a compass rose. Label N, S, E, W.
3. Make a key for: park, river, road, school, hospital. Use a different symbol for each.
4. If 1 cm on a map = 1 km, how far is 5 cm on the map?

