

Map Terminology and Vocabulary Words

Instructions: Students need to be able to define these terms as well as recognize them on a map.

- **Geography**- the study of Earth and the people, plants, and animals that live on Earth
 - **Globe**- a model of the Earth
 - **Map**- a drawing of a place
 - **Continent**- very large body of land; there are 7 on Earth
 - North America
 - South America
 - Asia
 - Africa
 - Antarctica
 - Australia
 - Europe
 - **Ocean**- a large body of salt water
 - Pacific Ocean
 - Atlantic Ocean
 - Indian Ocean
 - Arctic Ocean
 - Southern Ocean
 - **Longitude**- imaginary lines that run at right angles to the equator and meet at the North and South Poles; also called meridians
 - **Latitude**- imaginary lines that run horizontally around the world parallel to the equator; also called parallels
 - **Equator**- imaginary line around the middle of the Earth that divides the Earth into two equal halves (northern and southern hemisphere)
 - **Tropic of Cancer**- the parallel of latitude that is 23½ degrees north of the equator
 - **Tropic of Capricorn**- the parallel of latitude that is 23½ degrees south of the equator
 - **Map Key**- tells what the symbols on a map mean
 - **North Pole**- lies in the center of the Arctic circle; northern end of the Earth's axis
 - **South Pole**- southern end of the Earth's axis; lies in continent of Antarctica
 - **Scale**- way to measure a larger area (like a continent) on a map. (ex. 1 inch represents 120 inch)
 - **Compass rose**- a symbol on a map that has arrows that point to directions (north, south, east, west)
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- A globe of the Earth is shown in the background, tilted on its axis. A prominent blue line represents the equator, running horizontally across the middle of the globe. The continents are colored in various shades: North America is light blue, South America is light green, Africa is light yellow, Europe is light purple, Asia is light orange, Australia is light green, and Antarctica is light blue. The oceans are a darker blue. The globe is mounted on a stand with a circular base.