

FINDING YOUR WAY

ELECTIVE ADVENTURE



SNAPSHOT OF ADVENTURE



The ancient Greeks went on many adventures. Their writings told of faraway lands and treasures. To explain where their adventures took them, they created geography. Geography is the science of the Earth's surface. Geo means "earth" and grapho means "to write." Maps and compasses are tools that have helped travelers know if they are headed in the right direction.

In this Adventure, you will learn to read maps and use one on a walk. You'll also get to make your own map and use a compass on a scavenger hunt. Just like the ancient Greek explorers, it's time for you to lead the way on another great adventure.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Using a map, locate where you live.
2. Draw a map for a friend to locate your home or school. Create a key for your map.
3. Find the directions north, east, south, and west and the compass rose on a map.
4. Find the directions north, east, south, and west using a compass.
5. Practice using both a map and a compass.



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REQUIREMENT 1

Using a map, locate where you live.

A map is a drawing or sketch of an area or country. Explorers have used maps since ancient times to travel from one place to another. We use maps every day. You may have used a map to locate a trail you walked with your den or family. Now it's time to get to know your town better and the area where you live.

You can find a map of your city or town at a public library, the local convention and visitors bureau, or the chamber of commerce. You can also find a map of your area on the internet if you have permission from the adult working with you on this Adventure. Some online map programs might allow you to see a satellite image of your street and zoom in on a picture of your home.



Aerial view of Columbus, Georgia

If you are online, you can find the location of your home by typing in your street address with an adult's help. Your home will not be pictured on a regular city or town map, though.



Date

Adult's Signature

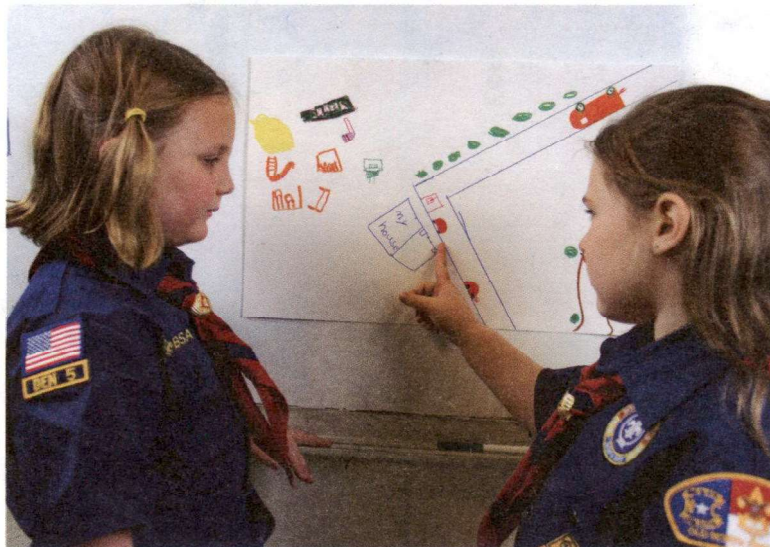
REQUIREMENT 2

Draw a map for a friend to locate your home or school. Create a key for your map.

Maps have lines, symbols, and colors. A key, or legend, tells you what those symbols and colors mean. Using the key, locate different symbols on the map. What symbols did you find?

Now make a map of your neighborhood. Include your home, your school, or other locations you choose. Make up your own symbols to show parks, buildings, and bodies of water nearby.

Mark the streets and landmarks on your map so a friend can easily find the location you selected.



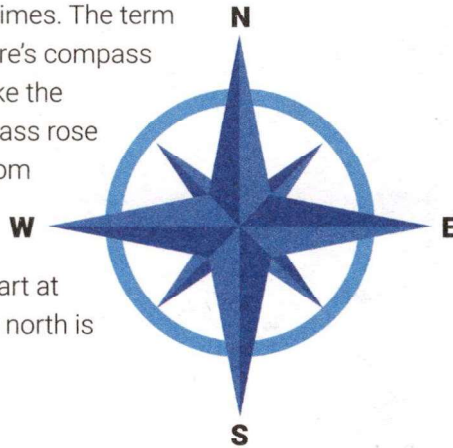
Date

Adult's Signature

REQUIREMENT 3

Find the directions north, east, south, and west and the compass rose on a map.

A compass rose is a figure on a compass, some maps, and nautical charts. It is used to show the four basic geographic directions: north, south, east, and west. Mapmakers have used this symbol since ancient times. The term "rose" comes from the figure's compass points, which look a little like the petals of a rose. The compass rose is often located in the bottom corner of a map. Reading a compass rose is a lot like reading a clock. You start at the top, which is where the north is located.



Here's how to remember the points of a compass rose, going clockwise: **Never Eat Soggy Waffles!**

- ▶ **Never = North**
- ▶ **Eat = East**
- ▶ **Soggy = South**
- ▶ **Waffles = West**



Look at the map above and find the compass rose. Now point to a place located in the north on the map. Ask an adult to check. Were you right? If you want to keep going, you can name places in the east, south, and west.



Date _____

Adult's Signature _____

REQUIREMENT 4

Find the directions north, east, south, and west using a compass.

North, south, east, and west are the points of a compass. A compass can help you figure out what direction is north. Once you know that, you can decide which direction to go to move toward your destination. You can also use a map and compass to figure out how to get from one place to another. Wherever you are on Earth, the compass needle will always point north.

Hold a compass flat in your hand. Look down at the needle to see where it is pointing. Turn your body slowly. Keep turning until the compass needle lines up with the north line or "N" on the grid. Remember, the floating needle is magnetized, and the red end will always point to magnetic north. You can always figure out the other



compass points when you stand facing north. When you are facing north using a compass, east will be on your right, south will be directly behind you, and west will be to your left. If you forget, remember "Never Eat Soggy Waffles," and you'll get back on track.



Date _____

Adult's Signature _____

REQUIREMENT 5

Practice using both a map and a compass.

It's time to have some fun using a compass! You might go on a scavenger hunt or take a walk.

Your den leader or another adult will place an object or objects nearby for you to find. Then they will give you directions for using the compass to locate them. First, find north on the compass and line up your body so you are facing north. The adult in charge will give you directions to an object from where you are standing.

Using the compass, follow the directions to get to the hidden object.

You've practiced with your map and compass, and now you're ready to try out your skills on a hike. Plan a hike with your den or your family using a park map, a map of your community, or a map you have created. Plan the route for your hike, so you can follow the directions using your map. Remember to bring along a pack with the Cub Scout Six Essentials and dress for the weather. When you get to a point on the map that is marked, such as



the intersection of two streets or a marked fork in the trail, stop and orient yourself by using the map. Point to the place where you are on the map and show an adult that you know your exact location.



_____ **Date**

_____ **Adult's Signature**