

# MAPS

## Mark It on the Map

Maps appear on the following pages: 3–9, 20–21, 23, 24, 26–34. See “Further Exploring” on pages 38–39 for more map references.

## Introduction

Have students read “Editor’s Note” silently. With the class, generate a list of kinds of maps available today. Tell students to add to the list as they read through the issue.

## Questions for Discussion

- What are the maps made by Australian Aborigines like?
- Give some examples of how a map can show how a certain group views the world.
- Why would ancient Chinese maps look upside-down to us?
- In what ways is a world map created in the thirteenth century different from one made today?
- How old are the oldest surviving maps?
- How was the map of the Roman Empire created in the time of Julius Caesar? To what groups of people was it useful?
- What did Eskimos use maps for?
- Describe the stick maps of the people of the Marshall Islands. For whom were they meant?
- What is an automatic navigator for a car, and who would need one?
- What uses could be found for an animated map that shows how the landscape in a particular area has changed over time?
- Why were Christopher Columbus and other explorers unable to map the coastline of the new continents more accurately?
- What mistakes did mapmakers of the past make when drawing the Americas?
- Which flattened map of the earth has the least distortion? What geometric shapes comprise this map? (Find the continents on this map, which is on page 29.)
- How are maps of the ocean floor made?
- What is the purpose of knowing where high- and low-pressure zones are on a map?
- For what reasons are river maps made?

## Writing Workout

Students may complete one or more of the following activities:

- Write a story or an account of an actual event in which a map played an important role.
- What talents, personal characteristics, and training does a mapmaker need? Make a list.
- Take a reader on a guided tour of an atlas. Show what kinds of information an atlas can supply, how this information can be useful, and why it can be fun to browse through different kinds of maps.

## Viewpoints

Have students look at the world map in your classroom. Ask them how it reflects our American way of looking at the world. (Most likely, your map will be a Mercator projection, which distorts by making Europe and North America appear larger than they are. A new, more accurate world map known as the Peters projection has been adopted by UNICEF, the World

## Vocabulary

premodern	cartouche
parchment	geologist
etched	aerial
cartography	barometric
elevation	sediment
animated	silt
niche	levee
vestment	excavation
unicorn	artifact

Council of Churches, and the Vatican, among other groups. Copies can be obtained through Northern Sun Merchandising, 2916 E. Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406.)

### **Then and Now**

Challenge students to find out about how computers are used in mapmaking and then report their findings to the class.

### **Get Into Art**

Students may complete one or more of the following activities:

- As a class project, create a gallery of maps. Use the list compiled by students as they read the articles.
- Draw a map of your school and its grounds as a reference to be given to all who attend, work in, or visit it. Include floor plans of all buildings.
- Complete the mapmaking activity on pages 11–13.
- Illustrate the story “The Maker of Maps” beginning on page 14.

### **Map History**

With your class, visit a local historical society to view maps of your town or city and note how it has changed over the years.

### **Science Enrichment**

Have students do research to find more information on how maps are made and on special types of maps that interest them. Other topics to explore are auto navigators for cars and the careers of geologist and hydrographer. You also might find a geological map of your area to study with the class.

### **Just for Fun**

Play “The Washington Metro Game” beginning on page 19. (Use the board on pages 20–21.)

### **Follow These Footsteps**

Christopher Columbus  
Hernando Cortés

Giovanni da Verrazano  
Amerigo Vespucci

Samuel Eliot Morison  
Buckminster Fuller