

FINDING YOUR WAY

Knowing how to find your way is a vital skill for any adventurer. Before you set off, make sure you know where you're going and how to find your way around. Bring a paper map and compass, or if you have a smartphone, download an offline map app for the area. Be sure to go through your route with an adult beforehand.

Maps use a special key called a legend to show different features of the landscape.



How do you work out where you are on a map?

If you're using a map app, it will often mark your location. If you're using a paper map, look around for reference points, such as buildings, street names, or other landmarks to help narrow down where you are.

USING A COMPASS

What is a compass?

It's a handy tool that explorers have been using for thousands of years to help them find their way. The needle on a compass always points north.

How does it work?

A compass needle contains a magnet, which is drawn to the huge natural magnet under the North Pole.

How do you use it?

Use your compass with a map. Place the compass on your map and make sure the needle lines up with north on the map. This will help you work out which direction you're facing.

DID YOU KNOW?

Some birds navigate using the Earth's magnetic field, as though they're living compasses!

Try making your own map!

Draw out the area you want to map. This might be your local area, your backyard, or your bedroom.

Come up with a legend like the one on the opposite page.

Mark a specific location with an X. Then give it to a friend or family member and challenge them to find their way to X.