

The Abbey Hill CURRICULUM

WHERE CAN
MAGNIFICENT MAPS
LEAD US?

Achieving our dreams together





Where can magnificent maps lead us?



Key Idea:



Welcome to the world of maps and navigation! Have you ever wondered how we can find our way around the school or even across the globe? Our school is in the Coxmoor Estate in Kirkby in Ashfield, and with tools like maps, compasses, and globes, we can explore places from above and understand where everything is. Maps show us buildings and natural features, and with a compass, we can easily discover the four main directions—north, south, east, and west. Let's uncover how these tools help us make sense of the world!

We will:



Design and carry out our very own Treasure Hunt of school.

Core Text:



Martha Maps it Out
Leigh Hodgkinson



Core Knowledge



1. There are different ways around the school site.
2. Our school is in the Coxmoor Estate in Kirkby in Ashfield.
3. Maps show places from a bird's-eye view.
4. A compass has four main directions: north, south, east and west.
5. A globe is a 3D model of Earth.
6. Symbols on maps can represent different buildings.
7. Maps can show natural features.
8. A key on a map explains what the symbols mean.

Disciplinary Knowledge



Being a Geographer:

Know the geography of the school and its grounds through simple fieldwork and observational skills.

Know simple compass directions (N, S, E and W), and locational and directional language to describe the location of features and routes on a map.

Understand basic symbols in a key.

Know and use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features: sea, ocean, seasons and weather.

Know basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key human features of the local environment including city, town, village, house, shop.





Lesson 1: What can we find around our school site?

Section	Details
Learning Intention	To explore and identify different ways and routes around our school site through observation and discussion.
Disciplinary Knowledge	Know the geography of the school and its grounds through simple fieldwork and observational skills.
Key Knowledge	There are different ways around the school site, which we can learn to recognise and navigate.
Teacher Actions	Lead a guided walk around school, pointing out key paths, entrances, exits and spaces. Prompt children to describe what they notice and remember.
Pupil Activities	Explore in pairs, take photos of different routes and features; draw pictures of favourite spots and routes back in class.
Evidence	Collaborative pictorial map made from children's drawings and photos showing routes around the school.
Adaptations	Dual Coding – combine visual route map with oral prompts and paired discussion to support recall.

Lesson 2: What is a map and how is it different from real life?

Section	Details
Learning Intention	To understand that maps show places from a bird's-eye view and use symbols to represent real features.
Disciplinary Knowledge	Know that maps represent places from above and use basic symbols to show important features.
Key Knowledge	Maps show places from a bird's-eye view; symbols can be used to represent buildings and features.
Teacher Actions	Show aerial photos and compare with real views; introduce the concept of bird's-eye view and simple map symbols.
Pupil Activities	Use blocks or toys to build a bird's-eye view of the classroom or school; take a photo and label key features with class.
Evidence	Photograph of 3D model from above, annotated as a simple pictorial map using symbols.
Adaptations	Resources and Aids – use models, photo prompts and hands-on construction for accessibility.





Lesson 3: How do we know which way we are facing?

Section	Details
Learning Intention	To understand and use the four main compass directions to describe and follow simple routes.
Disciplinary Knowledge	Know simple compass directions (N, S, E and W) and use them to describe location and movement.
Key Knowledge	A compass has four main directions: north, south, east and west, which help us navigate.
Teacher Actions	Introduce compass rose and model using a real compass; teach direction words with practical outdoor activities.
Pupil Activities	Use compasses or direction cards outdoors to find and follow directions around school, using movement games to reinforce vocabulary.
Evidence	Photographs of pupils demonstrating directional movements with labels showing compass directions at each point.
Adaptations	Preteaching – introduce compass vocabulary and direction concepts using songs or movement games before main task.

Lesson 4: What do symbols and keys tell us on a map?

Section	Details
Learning Intention	To understand how symbols are used on maps and how a key helps us read them correctly.
Disciplinary Knowledge	Understand basic symbols in a key and use them to locate and identify features on a map.
Key Knowledge	Symbols represent buildings or features on a map; a key explains what each symbol stands for.
Teacher Actions	Display and explain a simple map key; model how symbols represent real places and how to read the key alongside the map.
Pupil Activities	Pupils go on a symbol scavenger hunt using a class-made map with symbols and key; tick off each location they find.
Evidence	Completed pictorial map key created by pupils and displayed alongside a simple school map with matching symbols.
Adaptations	Environments – use outdoor learning space and tactile map pieces to support understanding of symbols.



