Map Skills

Compass rose, grid coordinates, scale, and landforms on a town map

IN THIS PACKET YOU WILL LEARN TO

- ✓ Name the parts of a map
- ✓ Use cardinal and intermediate directions
- ✓ Find a place with a grid coordinate
- ✓ Use a scale to find a distance

Name _____

Teacher _____

Class _____

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Parts of a Map

ANSWER KEY LEARN

Read this page with your teacher, then look at the town map on the next learn page.

WORDS TO KNOW

title	The name of the map, such as Map of Brookside.
key	A box that tells what the symbols on the map stand for.
compass rose	A drawing that shows north, south, east, and west.
scale	A line that tells how much real distance one unit on the map stands for.
grid	Lettered columns and numbered rows that help you name a square.

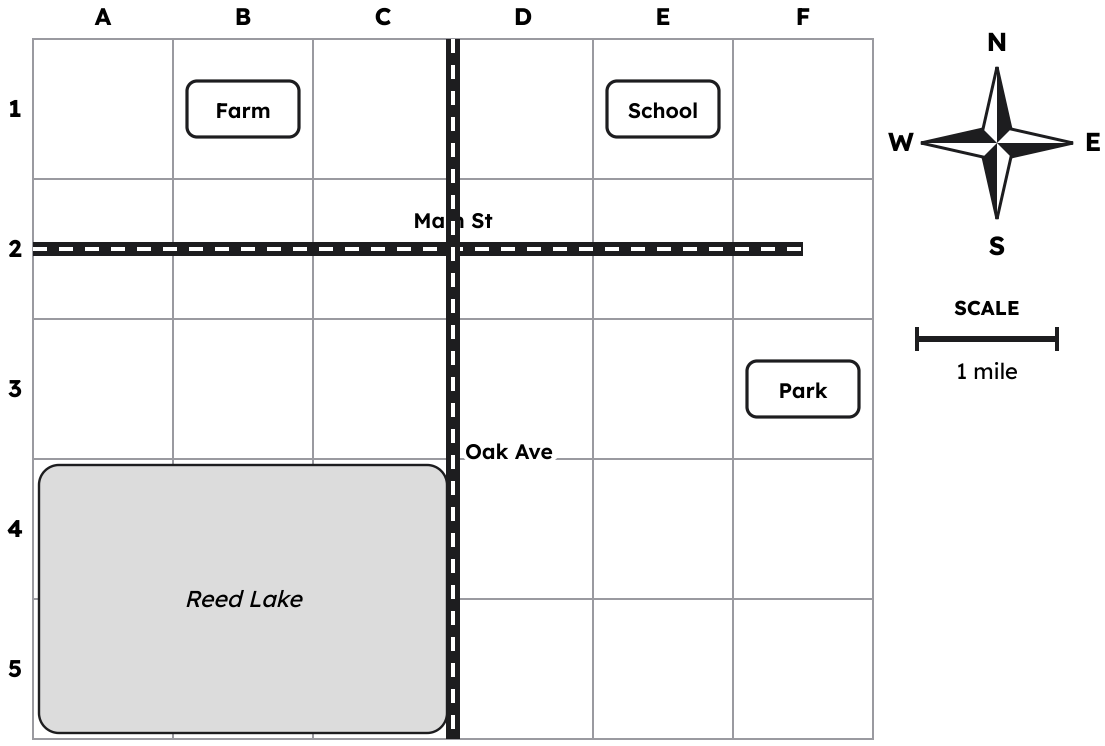
CARDINAL DIRECTIONS

North, south, east, and west are the cardinal directions. Northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest are the intermediate directions.

Map of Brookside

ANSWER KEY LEARN

This map shows Brookside, so use the compass rose and the grid letters and numbers as you read the labels.



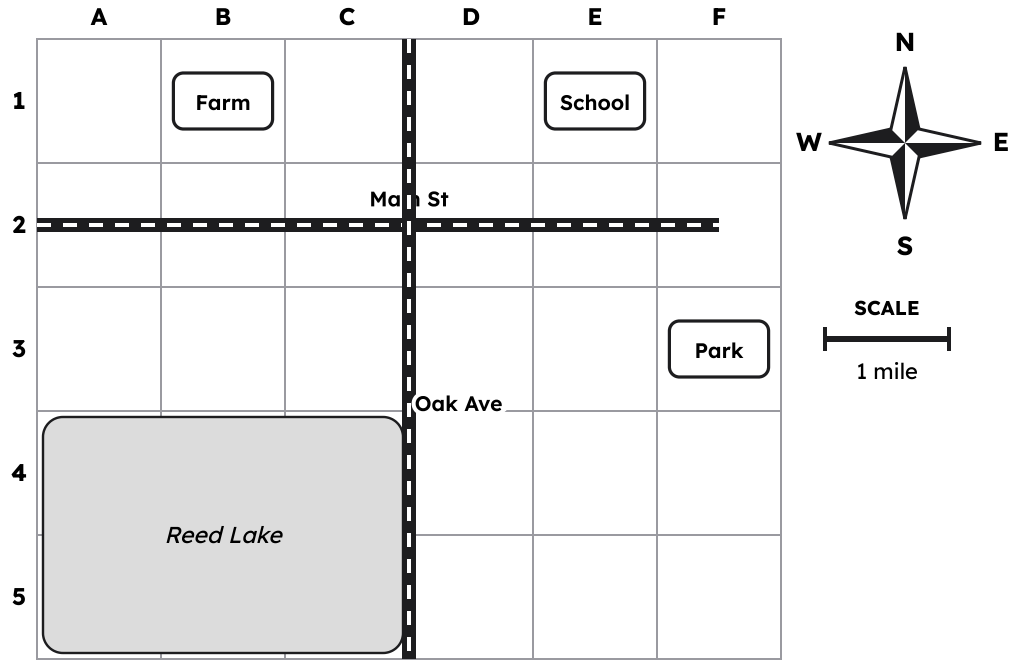
1. The school is in square **E1**

2. Reed Lake is in the **southwest** part of town.

Use the Grid and the Compass

ANSWER KEY | GUIDED PRACTICE

Look back at the map of Brookside if you need it, or use the copy on this page. Write the square or the direction.



1. The park is in square **F3**

2. The farm is in square **B1**

3. From the school, the park is to the **south**

4. From the farm, the school is to the **east**

Directions Practice

ANSWER KEY PRACTICE ★

Use the words north, south, east, west, northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest.

Standing in the center of Brookside

If you walk toward	You are going
the school	**northeast**
Reed Lake	**southwest**
the park	**east**
the farm	**northwest**

1. A friend stands at the park and walks west on Main Street. Which place will the friend pass first **Oak Avenue** ☐

Scale and Distance

ANSWER KEY PRACTICE ★★

On the Brookside map, each square is 1 mile on a side. Count the squares between two places, then write the distance.

1. About how many miles is it from the farm (B1) to the school (E1) along the top row
   3 miles ☐

2. About how many miles is it from the school (E1) to the park (F3) **2 to 3 miles** ☐

3. A hiker walks from the farm to Reed Lake by going south two squares. About how many miles is that walk **2 miles** ☐

4. Why does a map need a scale? Answer in a complete sentence.

   A scale tells how much real distance one unit on the paper stands for, so you can plan how far a trip will be.

Sort Land and Water

ANSWER KEY | CUT AND PASTE

Cut out the twelve cards. Glue each word under Landform or Body of water.

Landform	Body of water
hill	lake
valley	river
island	gulf
peninsula	bay
plain	ocean
canyon	stream

✂

bay	plain	hill	valley
gulf	canyon	ocean	lake
peninsula	island	stream	river

Match the Term to the Meaning

ANSWER KEY MATCH

Read each term on the left. Find the meaning on the right and write the letter on the line.

TERM		MEANING
1. compass rose	H	**A** a line that tells real distance
2. scale	A	**B** lines that run north to south and measure distance from the prime meridian
3. key	F	**C** the line of latitude at 0 degrees
4. grid	G	**D** the line of longitude at 0 degrees
5. latitude	E	**E** lines that run east to west and measure distance from the equator
6. longitude	B	**F** a box that explains the symbols
7. equator	C	**G** lettered columns and numbered rows
8. prime meridian	D	**H** a drawing that shows north, south, east, and west

Grid Riddle

ANSWER KEY RIDDLE

Write the word that fits each clue. The first letters, in order, answer the riddle.

Which way do you walk from the farm to the school in Brookside?

E	A	S	T
1	2	3	4

CODE TABLE

Avenue	East	North	Park	Southwest	Town
A	E	N	P	S	T

1. From the farm, the school is to the **East**
2. Oak **Avenue** is the north-south street.
3. From the school, Reed Lake is mostly to the **Southwest**
4. Brookside is a small **Town**

Plan a Route

ANSWER KEY APPLY

Plan a walk from the farm to the park. Write the directions a friend could follow, and estimate the miles.

1. Write step-by-step directions from the farm to the park. Use street names and cardinal directions.

Walk east on the road along the top to Oak Avenue, turn south, then walk east on Main Street to the park.

2. About how many miles is your route, and how did you use the scale?

About 5 miles. I counted about five squares, and each square is 1 mile.

Find the Mistake

ANSWER KEY | ERROR ANALYSIS ★★

Each box shows a student's note about Brookside. Tell what is mixed up, then write the note the right way.

Eli's note

The school is west of the farm.

1. What is mixed up in Eli's note, and what is the right direction?

The school is east of the farm. Both sit on the top row, and the school is in column E while the farm is in column B.

2. Write a correct sentence about the school and the farm.

YOUR WORK

The school is east of the farm.

Nia's note

Each square is 10 miles, so the farm is 30 miles from the school.

3. What is mixed up in Nia's scale, and what is a better estimate?

The scale on the map is 1 mile per square, so the farm is about 3 miles from the school, on the same row.

4. Write a correct sentence about that distance.

YOUR WORK

The farm is about 3 miles west of the school.

Draw a Map of Your Own

ANSWER KEY

WRITE ABOUT IT

Draw a small town of your own. Include a title, a compass rose, a key, a scale, and at least four labeled places.

YOUR TOWN MAP

1. Write the scale you used, and name one place that sits north of another place.

Answers will vary. Look for a stated scale and a correct north-south pair.

Mixed Review

ANSWER KEY REVIEW

Answer each question in a complete sentence or with a square name.

1. A compass rose shows **north, south, east, and west**

2. Lines of latitude run **east to west**

3. The school in Brookside is in square **E1**

4. The park is in square **F3**

5. Why does a map need a key?

A key tells what the symbols on the map stand for, so a reader can tell a school from a park.

Exit Tickets

ANSWER KEY CHECK

Your teacher will cut this page on the dotted line so each student gets one ticket, and then the student answers both questions.

Map Skills Exit Ticket

Name _____

1. The school in Brookside is in square **E1**

2. If you stand at the farm and walk toward the school, which direction are you walking?

east

Map Skills Exit Ticket

Name _____

1. The school in Brookside is in square **E1**

2. If you stand at the farm and walk toward the school, which direction are you walking?

east

How Did I Do?

ANSWER KEY SELF-CHECK

Read each skill and put a check in the box that fits you best. Then answer the two questions at the bottom of the page.

Skill	I can do this on my own.	I can do this with a little help.	I am still learning this.
I can name the parts of a map.	☐	☐	☐
I can use cardinal and intermediate directions.	☐	☐	☐
I can find a place with a grid coordinate.	☐	☐	☐
I can use a scale to find a distance.	☐	☐	☐
I can draw a map with a title, a key, a compass rose, and a scale.	☐	☐	☐

1. Which skill do you want to practice more, and why?

Answers will vary. Look for a specific skill and a reason.

2. Which part of a map helps you the most when you are lost, and why?

Answers will vary. Look for compass rose, grid, or scale and a reason.