

LESSON No. 16



MAPPING OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

Where do you live ? What do you call the persons living next to yours ? The persons living close to your house are your neighbours.

Do you have market, school, shop, pond, river, dispensary, post office, bus stand, park, playground, community hall or any important prominent buildings within fifteen minutes walking distance? Walk for fifteen minutes. It may be a distance of around one kilometre. Make a list of notable spots or structures in the area.

With reference to your house, in which direction are the notable spots or structures? With the help of a map you can show it to your friend. Look at a satellite picture of an area. Here you can see the aerial picture of the area. You can find the relative position of the spots, structures, etc. in it. A map of this area is also shown next to it.



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What is a map ? It is a representation of a given area on the Earth's surface with the details of it on a paper. How can you show the spots, structure, tree, building, pond, etc. in the map ? We can use certain symbols to represent them.

Some symbols are suggested below.



From the map can you ascertain the distance between two spots ? Yes, maps are usually prepared in a scale. A scale is an important part in preparing a map. It relates the actual distance between two places on the surface of the Earth and the distance between the two corresponding spots in the map. For example, the distance between Imphal and Delhi is 1600 km. But in the map the distance between Imphal and Delhi is made only 16 cm. It means 16 cm on the map represents 1600 km. That is, 1 cm in the map represents 100 km on the ground. This is the scale of the map.

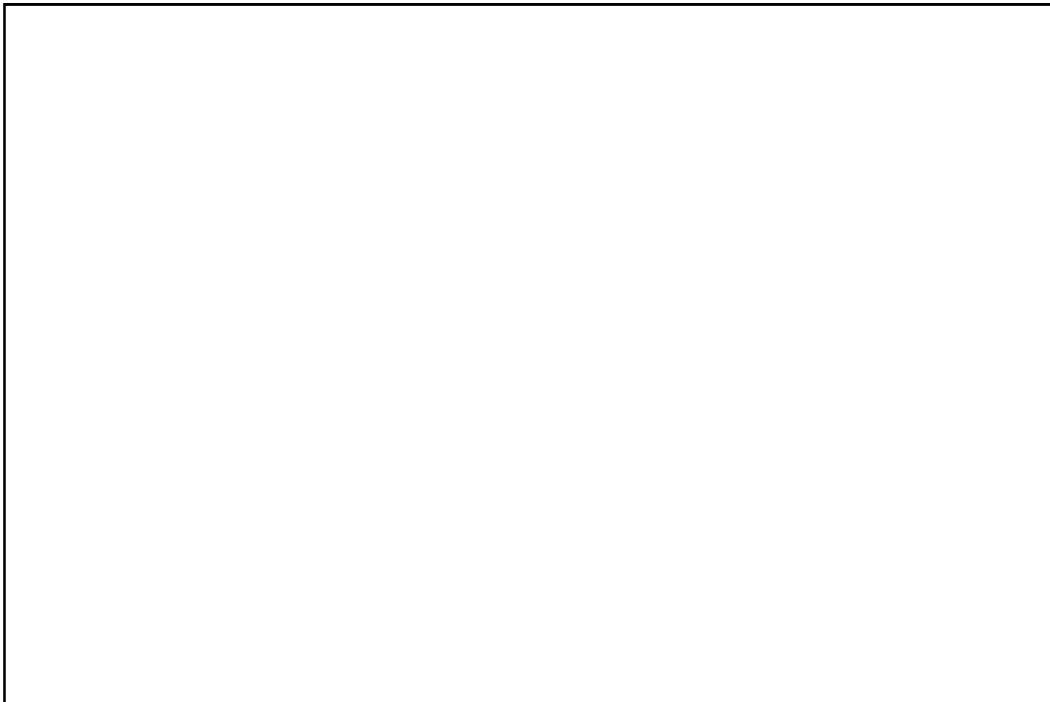
What is a scale ?

A scale is the ratio of the distance between two spots on the map to the actual distance between the two corresponding places on the ground.

Do you know while preparing a map we usually take the upper side of the map as north? Hence, we usually put [N-S and W-E] symbol preferably at top right hand corner of the map.

Prepare a map of your school campus. You can use the number of steps to measure distance. In the map ten steps can be represented by 1 cm. How can you determine direction in your school campus ? To determine the direction fix a straight pole vertically/upright on a plane surface. Observe its shadow, cast by the Sun. When the length of the shadow is shortest it is in the south to north direction.

Mark it on the ground to show [S-N] direction.



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A map of the campus of Model School is shown here for your reference.

