

Creative Adventure: Mapping

The coast is a fascinating place to explore, but how do you share what you've found with other people? Why not make some maps of a place you are visiting?

Make maps showing **different things**

All maps are designed to show different things. Some provide directions to find a specific location. Others tell us something about the history of a place, the people or animals that live there and the things they do.

Make a **population** map

Record all the different people, animals and birds you see by drawing a symbol in the place you saw them. If you see several people or animals in one place, you could show this with larger images. For example:



...could represent 1-10 birds



...could represent 10-100 birds



...could represent more than 100 birds

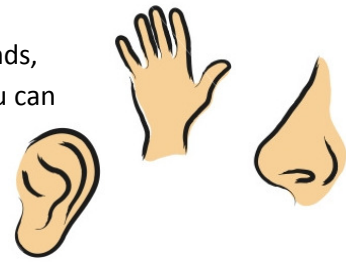
Make an **object** map

Mark all the different places and things you can see on your map. Maybe you can see a beach, a bay or an island. Or you could show sand, pebbles, rocks or waves. Use images or words to describe what you see. You could also take photographs of specific things, or write words so they look like what they mean. For example,



Make a **sensory** map

Seeing things is only one way of experiencing them. You can hear sounds, feel textures and smell things. Draw a map which shows the things you can hear, smell and feel as well as the things you can see. You might note the smell of seaweed, the crunch of small pebbles, the calls of birds, or the soft feel of grassy sand dunes.



Make a **historical** map

Draw a map that shows how the location might have looked ten, one hundred, one thousand or even ten thousand years ago. Where was the coastline? What buildings, roads or paths were there? Were there animals and people here? How does the map look different from a modern version?



Make maps for **different people**

You can never show everything on a map. If you ask four different people to draw a map of the same place, they will probably choose different things to include. Perhaps they will emphasise what interests them most.

- Make a **grandparents** map. You and your grandparents are probably interested in different things. Draw a map that shows the places and activities that they would be most interested in. How is it different from a map you would draw?
- Make a **tourist** map. Draw a map which shows all the different things that tourists would find useful. How do you think a map for local people would differ?
- Make a **bird's eye** map. Imagine you are drawing a map from above. Some things will be too small for you to see. Others may be hidden, for instance, under an overhanging cliff. Draw a map that shows the scene as a bird would see it.

Share your maps online

- You can make and share maps online at Google Maps: <http://maps.google.co.uk/>
- You can upload photos and videos to Flickr: www.flickr.com and place them on a map. Check out the Our Coast Our Sea group map here: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/northumberlandcoast/pool/map?mode=group>
- If you have a PDA with integrated GPS you can create your own 'mediascapes' at Create-A-Scape: <http://www.createascape.org.uk/>