## Map Vocabulary Glossary

#### WHO MADE THIS?

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# Map Vocabulary Glossary

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Absolute	location describes the exact position of something often using latitude and longitude.
Antarctic	The most southerly major circle of latitude.
Arctic	The most northerly major circle of latitude.
Axis	An imaginary line that runs through the earth between the magnetic poles and about which the earth rotates.
Cancer	Tropic of The most northerly circle of latitude at which the sun can be directly overhead.
Capricorn	Tropic of The most southerly circle of latitude at which the sun can be directly overhead.
Cardinal	Name for each of the four main points of the compass.
Compass Rose	A figure that displays the orientation of the four cardinal directions and their intermediate points.
Coordinate	A set of values that show the exact position of something.
Directions	North, south, east and west.
East	The direction towards the point of the horizon where the sun rises at the equinoxes.
Equator	An imaginary circle on the earth's surface that is equidistant from the magnetic poles.
Globe	A spherical map representing the earth.
Hemisphere	A half of the earth as divided by its equator.
Latitude	A measurement of the angular distance from the equator.
Legend	A table of symbols that appear on a map.
Location	This can be indicated in either absolute or relative terms.
Longitude	A measurement of the angular distance from the prime meridian.
Meridian	An imaginary circle on the earth's surface that passes through the magnetic poles.
North	The direction in which a compass needle normally points.
North Pole	The northern point of the axis of the earth's rotation.
Physical	A map's primary purpose is to show geographical features.
Political	A map's primary purpose is to show governmental boundaries of countries, states, etc. as well as the location of cities.
Projections	The different systems of transforming the locations on a sphere onto a flat surface.
Relative	location describes the position of something in relation to something else using cardinal directions.
Relief	A map shows differences in elevations by shading or texture.
South	The direction towards the point of the horizon 90° clockwise from east.
South Pole	The southern point of the axis of the earth's rotation.
Tropic	The parallel of latitude at a distance of 23°26′ from the earth's equator.
West	The direction towards the point of the horizon where the sun sets at the equinoxes.