## Year 6 Geography: Atlas and Map skills

## Prior Learning

- A map is a drawing of an actual place that uses lines and symbols to represent real-life objects.
- People have used maps for hundreds of years to help them travel from place to place.
- Key features of maps include: a title, a compass, symbols, a key
- and different colours for important things, such as blue for rivers
- When planning a journey using a map, people usually think about the quickest or safest route
- Maps can show physical features, as well as continents, countries and capital cities.


## Sticky Knowledge

Landscape features and places (both human and physical) can be located on an Ordnance Survey map through the use of grid references and grid squares
The 'Eastings' and 'Northings' are the numbers around the edge of an OS map. To pinpoint a place you take the Eastings number first, then the Northing (along the corridor and up the stairs).

- You also need an the two letter code (e.g. SK 2607) to help locate features
- Six-figure grid references enable more accurate readings, as two more figures give the exact location within the grid square identified through the four-figure grid reference.
Maps can be drawn in different scales. 1:25,000 means for every 1 cm on the map $25,000 \mathrm{~cm}$ are covered on the ground. This can be expressed as 1 cm for every $1 / 4 \mathrm{~km}$ or more usually 4 cm to 1 km (also $2 \frac{1}{2}$ inches to 1 mile)
Locate the world's countries, using maps, to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities.
Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied


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## Vocabulary

| Sketch map | A simple map with only basic details |
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| Key | Helps us understand map symbols |
| Map symbol | A picture or sign used on a map that represents <br> something else |
| Ordnance <br> Survey | A survey organisation in the UK which prepares very <br> detailed maps of the country |
| Route | A way of getting from a start point to a finish point. |
| Compass | A tool which shows people the direction they are <br> travelling |
| Atlas | A collection of maps in one book. |
| Scale | Map scale refers to the relationship (or ratio) between <br> distance on a map and the corresponding distance on <br> the ground. |
| Landmark | A feature of the landscape or area that is easily <br> recognised |
| Grid <br> reference | The capital city or capital town (or just capital) is a <br> city or town where the central government of a <br> country is |
| Easting | The numbers used in a grid reference that run <br> west to east. |
| Northings | The numbers used in a grid reference that run <br> south to north. |

