



Vocabulary List

Atlas – A collection of maps or charts

Cardinal Directions – The four principal directions of the Earth; North, south, east and west

Cartography – The study and practice of making maps

Chronology – The arrangement of events in time, a record of events in the order in which they occurred

Compass – A magnetic device used to determine geographic direction on the Earth

Compass Rose – A symbol on a map that indicates the orientation of the cardinal directions

Equator – A reference line of latitude on the Earth equidistant from the North and South poles which divides the Earth into North and South hemispheres

Geography – The study of the Earth's physical features, human activity and regional patterns

Latitude – Measurement in degrees of angular distance north or south of the Earth's equator

Legend – An explanatory table or list of symbols on a map

Longitude – Measurement in degrees of angular distance on the Earth's surface east or west of the prime meridian

Map Key – Legend; An explanatory table or list of symbols on a map

Map Title – Title that indicates the region that the map represents

Meridian – A reference line of longitude on the Earth perpendicular to the Equator that passes through the North and South poles

Prime Meridian – Meridian at zero degree longitude from which east and west are measured, passes through the original site of the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England

Timeline – A representation of historic events arranged chronologically

Topography – A graphic representation of the surface features of the Earth on a map