

The Difference Between Maps and Globes



Where are you? Maps and globes can help you answer that question. But maps and globes are different. Maps are flat. Globes are round.

A map is a flat picture of a place. A map is easy to carry. You can fold a map and put it in your pocket.

A globe is a big round ball that shows you the world. You can spin a globe around.

Maps let you see all the places in the world at the same time. Globes give you a better picture of what our round planet looks like from space. Maps and globes help you see the world in different ways!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: For questions 1-4, circle the correct answer.

1. What is the same about both maps and globes?

- a) They can be folded and put in your pocket.
- b) They help you see the world.
- c) They show you what our planet looks like from space.

2. This passage compares maps and globes. Which of the two is big and round like a ball?

- a) a map
- b) a globe
- c) both maps and globes

3. Round globes are better at showing the shape of a place, but flat maps are better at showing all the places in the world at the same time. Which part of the passage tells us that this is true?

- a) "Maps are flat. Globes are round."
- b) "Maps let you see all the places in the world at the same time. Globes give you a better picture of what our round planet looks like from space."
- c) "Maps and globes help you see the world in different ways."

4. What is "The Difference Between Maps and Globes" mainly about?

- a) how to use maps and globes to find places on Earth
- b) the similarities and differences between maps and globes
- c) what the world looks like from space

5. A) What do we call a flat picture that is easy to carry and lets you see all the places in the world at the same time?

A flat picture that is easy to carry and lets you see all the places in the world at the same time is

B) Draw a picture of a *world* map.



Teacher Guide & Answers

Note to Teacher: Read each question out loud to your students and have each student complete the worksheet independently. For questions 5 A) and 6, you can have students draw their answers, answer orally, or write their answers, depending on your students' progress. If you have them write their answers, you may want to write the word(s) on the board for them to copy. Question 7 is a class discussion question.

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 470

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 - b) They help you see the world.**
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 - c) "Maps and globes help you see the world in different ways."

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5. A) *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

What do we call a flat picture that is easy to carry and lets you see all the places in the world at the same time?

Suggested answer: A flat picture that is easy to carry and lets you see all the places in the world at the same time is *a map*.

- B) Draw a picture of a *world* map.

Suggested answer: Students' pictures may vary but should fill the drawing box with pictures of the land and water on Earth. The specific shape of the land and water is not important, as this information is not included in the passage, but it is important for students to demonstrate an understanding of the fact that a world map is flat and can show the entire world.

6. *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

What did you learn from "The Difference Between Maps and Globes"?

Suggested answer: Answers may vary and should be supported by the passage.

7. *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

Note to Teacher: This question will be even more effective if you can show your students Greenland on a world map and a globe.

Class Discussion Question: If you wanted to know what shape the country Greenland is, would you look for it on a globe or a map? Please explain your thinking.

Suggested answer: Students may respond that they would use either a map or a globe. Because a map can show the whole world at the same time, finding Greenland on a map might be easier than on a globe. On the other hand, some students may prefer a globe, which gives a better picture of what Earth looks like from space.