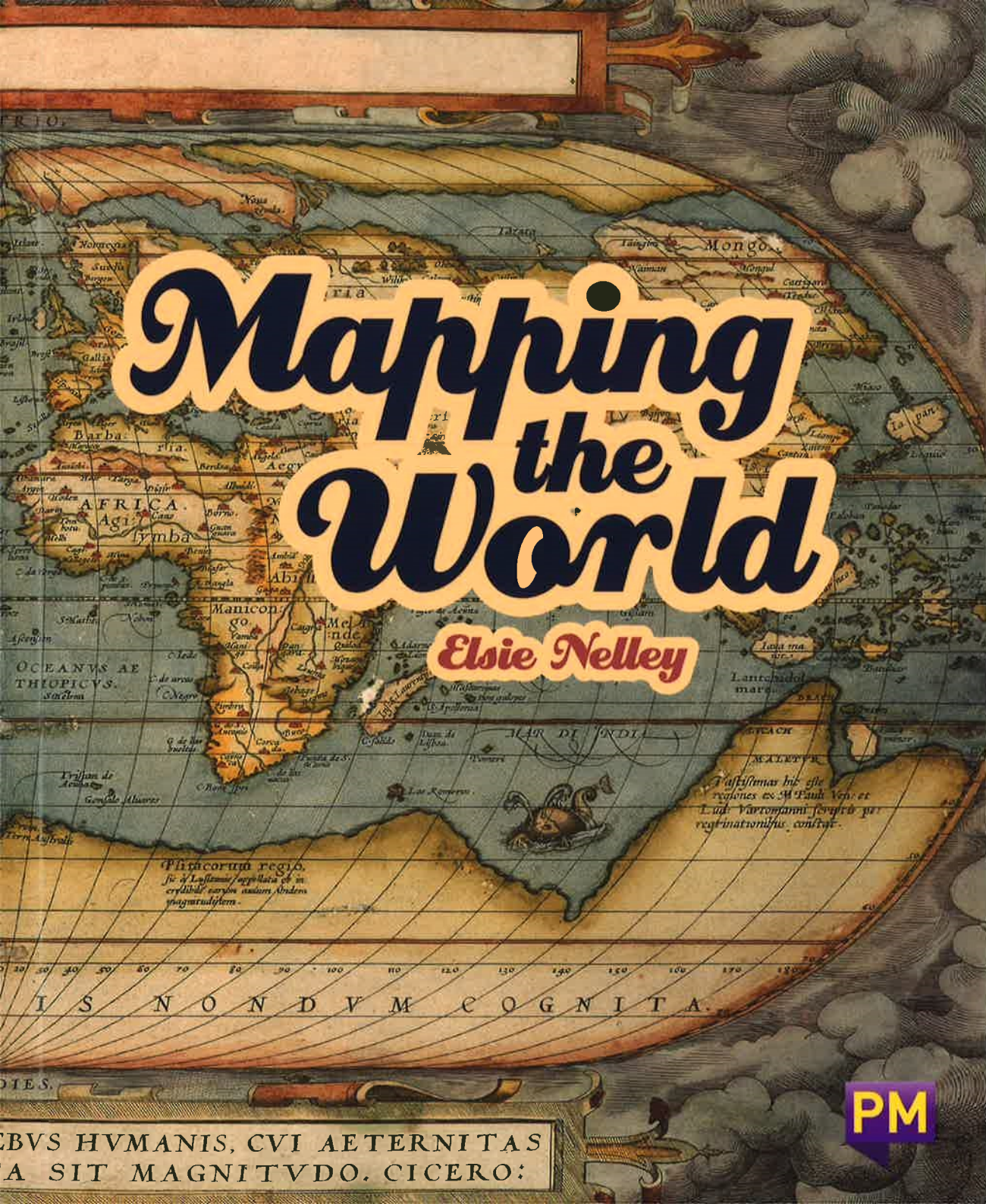

Mapping the World
Elsie Nelley
PM

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Mapping the World

Level 29

Running Words 2455 **Text Types** Information Report (Informative) pages 2–20
Explanation (Informative) pages 21–30

Curriculum Areas History; Humanities – Geography

Think and Talk About ...

Fact boxes in the book encourage each student to explore the statements further and to share the information with others.

Oral Literacy Focus for Students

Key issues from the text to encourage critical thinking and stimulate group discussions:

1 Establish why the base map for a thematic map would include features such as country names and rivers.

2 Identify a particular topic or theme relevant to your school. Insert this information onto a base map of the school grounds, to create a thematic map.

3 Suggest reasons why many old maps were drawn to be beautiful as well as useful.

4 Explain why a GPS needs to communicate with satellites.

5 Discuss the current and long-term effects of sonar and underwater vehicles on sea life.

Written Literacy Focus for Students

Key issue from the text to present in visual and written form to an audience:

1 Research the topic 'Electronic maps'.

2 Prepare, in written form, a series of verbal prompts to direct someone from your home to several places within your local area. Include a reference map that resembles the screen display on a GPS.

3 Edit and revise the text.

4 Present the text verbally to an adult member of your family.

5 Critically evaluate the accuracy of your instructions.

Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 29	Book	Recount/Procedure	*Intrepid Journeys*
Level 29	Book	Information Report/Explanation	*Working at an Airport*

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Mapping the World

Elsie Nelley

Contents

What Are Maps? 2
Features of Maps 4
Road Maps and GPS 6
Thematic Maps 10
A Collection of Maps 12
The Earliest Maps 14
The Age of Exploration 16
Modern Cartography 18
How the Sea Floor Is Mapped 21
Glossary 31
Index 32

What Are Maps?

Maps **convey** information about the shape, structure and special features of Earth's surface. Some maps focus on a small area, while others contain information about the whole world. People who design maps are called cartographers.

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Many old maps were beautiful as well as useful



Think and Talk About ...

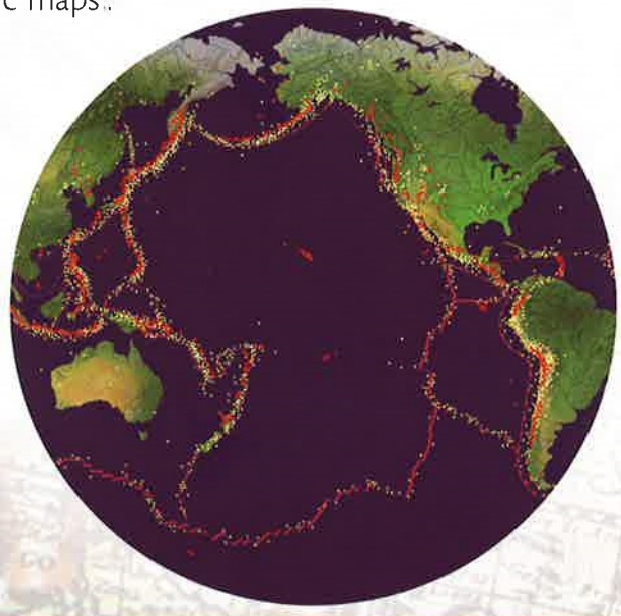
Before cartographers used computers, maps had to be drawn by hand.



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Different types of maps convey different information. Weather **forecasters** use **meteorological** maps to warn communities when violent storms are predicted. Marine scientists use sea-floor maps to track the habitats of endangered marine life. Town planners use street maps and aerial videos to assess the flow of traffic on busy highways. Every day, travellers view maps on their smartphones to find their way from one place to another.

Maps that contain only basic information, such as the location of cities around the world, are known as "reference maps". Maps that include information about a particular topic or theme are referred to as "thematic maps".

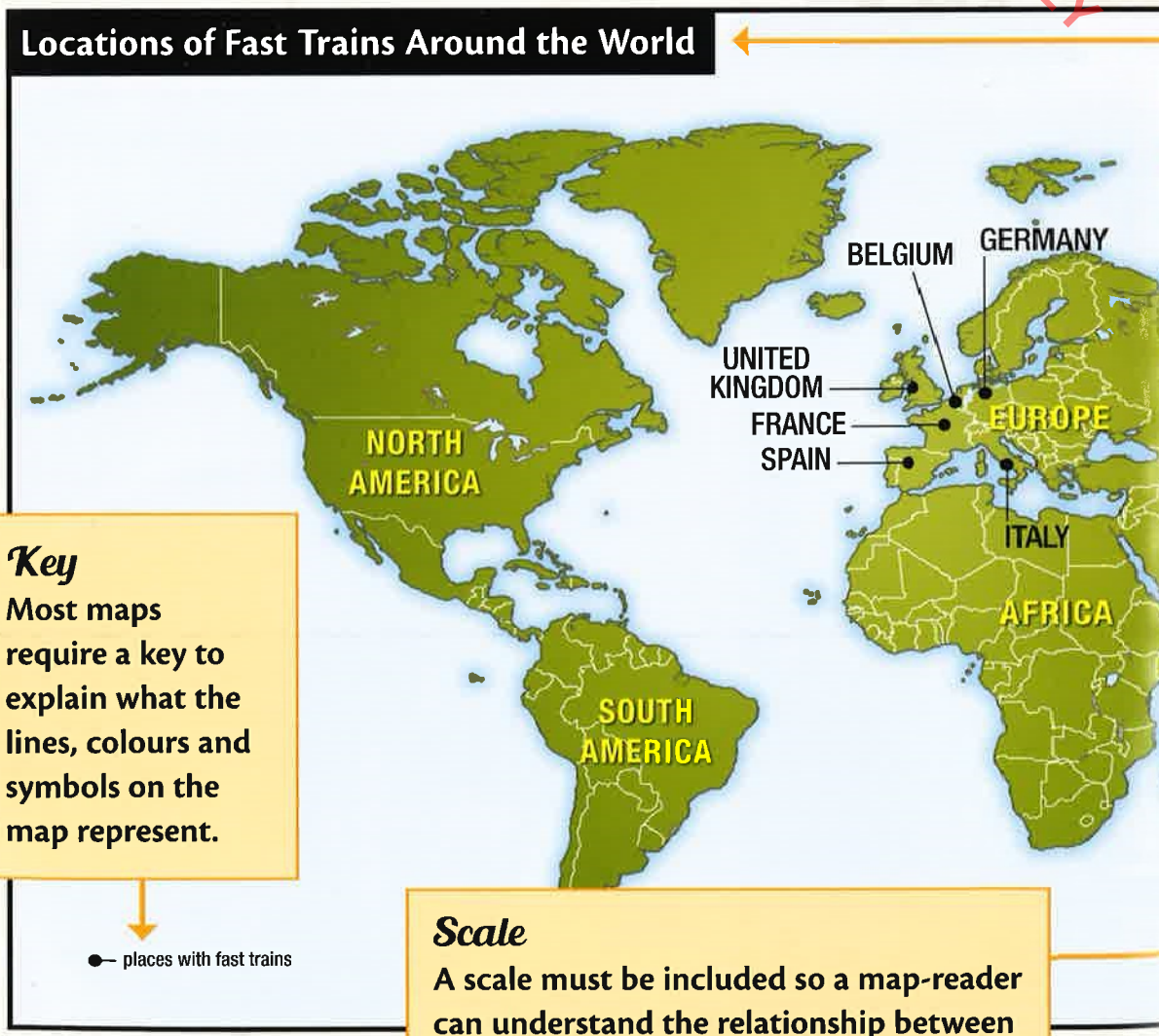


Modern maps use digital technologies to improve accuracy.

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Features of Maps

Maps are designed to convey information in a way that is easy for people to read and understand. Almost all maps contain some similar features.



Key

Most maps require a key to explain what the lines, colours and symbols on the map represent.

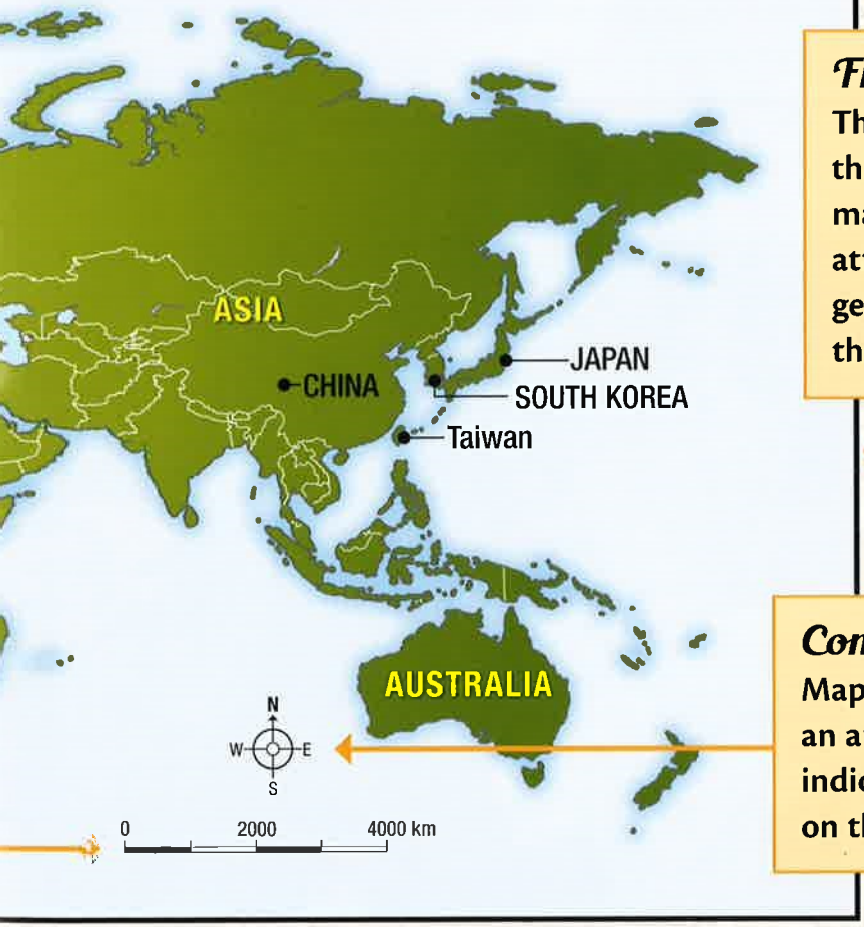
Scale

A scale must be included so a map-reader can understand the relationship between the distance on the map and the actual distance on land.

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Title

The map title provides specific information about the theme or subject of the map. It is often placed in a highlighted box or printed in large lettering to ensure people can quickly understand the purpose of the map.



Frame

The frame around the outer edge of a map draws people's attention to the exact geographical area that the map represents.

Compass

Maps must always feature an arrow or compass to indicate which direction on the map is north.

Road Maps and GPS

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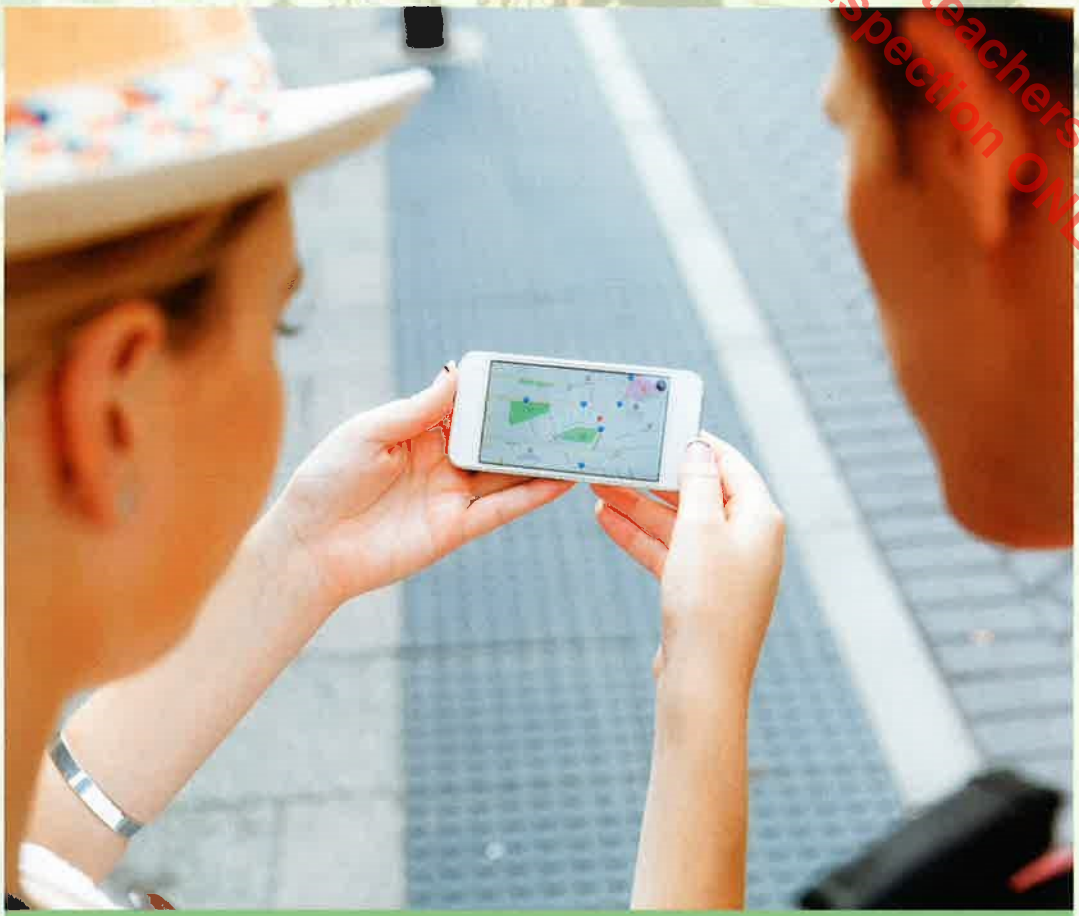
A road map is a type of reference map. Symbols and labels indicate major and minor roads, highway networks, airports, railways, cities and towns, as well as parks and specific areas of interest. An alphabetical index and map reference numbers are included to help people quickly locate particular streets.

Road maps can be small, single-page maps that provide directions to a specific location. Alternatively, they can be quite complex, fold-out touring maps that include information about things such as recreation areas, bike paths, accommodation options, distances and even estimated travel times.



Cyclists can use touring maps to plan their route.

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Travellers can access maps on their smartphones so they don't get lost in unfamiliar places.

Today, people use electronically generated road maps. Map websites and apps can be accessed from computers and most mobile devices, including smartphones. Interactive touring maps are popular with travellers. These maps include extra resources. Tourists are able to study photographs or videos of particular places, read reviews written by people who have already visited the sites, calculate costs, plan their **itineraries** and even make reservations.

15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
PM Level 29
30

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Maps convey information about the world. Modern technologies have changed how people create maps and the ways they access them. Looking at old maps can show how differently the world was understood in the past.

Mapping the sea floor is very difficult, because humans can only stay underwater for short periods of time. While all of the land on Earth has been mapped, parts of the sea floor are still to be explored.

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