Scott Primary School—History Knowledge Organiser

Topic: Marvellous Maps

Year 5—Spring 2

Key Vocabulary

Atlas	A collection of maps often of each coun- try in the world	•
Compass	A tool used for showing direction.	
Digital map	A map that uses technology such as a satnav.	
Easting	The numbers used in a grid reference that run west to east.	
Grid references	The numbered squares on a map used to locate a place.	•
National Grid	A system used to split Great Britain into 100km squares.	•
Northing	The numbers used in a grid reference that run south to north.	
Ordnance Sur- vey maps	Detailed maps of Great Britain where each square represents 1km squared (1km²).	
symbols	Small pictures, letters or lines that repre- sent a feature.	

Previous Knowledge

- locate the world's countries, using maps
 - Maps of the UK and local areas
 - Fieldwork
 - Maps of India

Important Facts

A map is criss-crossed with horizontal and vertical lines that create a grid. The grid and squares help to narrow a search area so you can locate features on a map. Usually, the lines are numbered with two digits. Eastings are the numbers that run from west to east. Northings are the numbers that run from south to north. The easting and northing numbers are put together to create a four digit grid reference, e.g. (32,43), which refers to the bottom left corner of a square on the map. Grid references can be even more specific by adding an extra digit to both the easting and northing numbers. These six-digit grid references, e.g. (323,432), tell us more precisely whereabouts in the square something is.

The National Grid is a grid reference system for the whole of Great Britain. It splits Great Britain into squares - each is 100km. The spaces can be identified by using two letters e.g. SK. Easting and northing numbers can be used to split the squares into smaller sections making them easier to use.

Maps use symbols instead of words to label real-life features. A key on the map tells you what the symbol means.

