

Maps, charts and globes

School Session Overview

October 2025

Key information

Length of session: 150 mins

Key Stage: KS2

Location(s) of session: Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre (PPMCC) Learning Space, Humidity Store, 3D Objects Store

Learning objectives

Learners will:

- Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources including maps, charts and globes
- Identify the position and significance of globe features (longitude etc)
- Interpret a range of geographical sources
- Understand that maps, charts and globes are important historical sources and how to use them

Curriculum links

KS2 Geography

- Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones
- Locate the world's countries

KS2 History

- Understand the methods of historical enquiry

Key words

maps, charts, globes, countries, land, sea, continents, compass, longitude, latitude, equator, prime meridian, constellations, navigation

Overview of the session

Introduction

Learners explore how we in the UK are connected to other parts of the world. The class is subdivided into two groups for the next two activities, which both groups do.

Morning Learning Space Activity

Learners use modern globes to help identify and label different places in the world as well as identifying features of globes (latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones). They examine how maps are distorted because they are a 2D representation of a 3D object.

Stores Visit

Learners visit the stores and explore a map made over 600 years ago as well as some very different globes.

Afternoon Learning Space Activity

Learners examine how globes were made in the past and work in groups to make a globe that can be taken back to school.

Suggested pre visit knowledge/ activities

Suggested post visit activities

Support learners to identify their country of origin, their town or city and what continent we are in on a globe.

Connect geography with real-world events by supplying short global news stories (sports, environment, culture) and ask learners to locate the country using a globe or map. These could be used to create a class display called - 'The World This Week' with latitude/longitude coordinates.

Links to useful resources

[The True Size Of ...](#)

[The Spinning Earth | Royal Museums Greenwich](#)

[Google Earth](#)

[Create a new world that you've found | Royal Museums Greenwich](#)

[Behind the scenes at the Museum | LIVE from Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre](#)

[Global Citizenship - Schools Dreamachine](#)