

Trail Report Tools

Use map features and data to communicate location information.

SS.7.G.1 "Understand how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technology to report information."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each tool or map feature named in the passage. Circle each fact the group included to help readers understand or check its report.

Cleaning Up Riverside Trail

- ① A community group wanted to report where litter was collected along Riverside Trail. Volunteers used a phone map with GPS to save each location. On the map, they chose symbols for trash cans, bags, and bottles. A legend explained each symbol, while a scale bar helped readers estimate distances between sites.
- ② At each marked site, volunteers counted filled bags and recorded the nearest landmark. They entered the results in a table so readers could compare places without studying every point on the map. The table shows that information from a geographic tool can be organized for a town meeting.

RIVERSIDE TRAIL CLEANUP RESULTS

Nearest landmark	Filled bags collected
Playground	9
Footbridge	5
Oak Bench	7
Trailhead	3

- ③ Before publishing the report, the group checked locations against street names and added a north arrow. The report stated that the largest collection occurred near the playground, then gave the bag total from the table. It also named the phone map as the source, so readers could judge how the information was gathered.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which two map features helped readers understand the symbols and estimate distance? State what each feature did.

2 Which landmark had the largest litter collection? Use the table to support your answer.

3 What two kinds of information did volunteers record at each marked site?

4 Name two steps the group took to make its report easier to check or use.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine you are reporting conditions at three places in your school or neighborhood. Complete the table to show how a paper or digital map could help you report each location, using a clear symbol and one useful fact.

LOCATION	MAP SYMBOL AND LEGEND MEANING	USEFUL FACT TO REPORT

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each tool or map feature named in the passage. Circle each fact the group included to help readers understand or check its report. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two map features helped readers understand the symbols and estimate distance? State what each feature did.	The legend explained the symbols. The scale bar helped readers estimate distances between sites.
2	Which landmark had the largest litter collection? Use the table to support your answer.	The playground had the largest collection, with 9 filled bags.
3	What two kinds of information did volunteers record at each marked site?	They recorded the number of filled bags and the nearest landmark.
4	Name two steps the group took to make its report easier to check or use.	Answers include checking locations against street names, adding a north arrow, giving the bag total, and naming the phone map as the source.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

LOCATION	MAP SYMBOL AND LEGEND MEANING	USEFUL FACT TO REPORT
School garden	Circle, garden area	4 watering cans are available
Bus stop	Square, bus stop	18 students wait here after school
Library entrance	Triangle, entrance	The door is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Accept accurate map symbols and legend meanings that clearly match each chosen location. Reported facts should be specific, useful, and plausible for the location.