Map Clue Hunt

Use directions, a grid, a legend, and a scale to find places.

3.SS.2.2 "Use cardinal directions, map scales, legends, and grids to locate the United States, Washington D.C., Idaho, the state capital, Boise, and their own community on a map."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline direction words, circle each letter-number grid square, and draw a box around the sentences that explain the legend and the scale.

Maya Reads a Map

1. Maya opens an atlas to a map of North America. She finds the United States between Canada to the north and Mexico to the south. The map has an arrow marked N. N means north, so east is to the right and west is to the left. Idaho is in the western United States. Washington, D.C., is far to the east of Idaho.

2. A second map uses a grid to help Maya find smaller places. Letters A through F run from west to east. Numbers 1 through 3 run from north to south. Idaho lies in square B2, and Washington, D.C., lies in square F3. Boise is in B2, too, in the southwest part of Idaho. Maya can use both a letter and a number to name each square.

3. The map legend gives clues about symbols. A star marks a state capital, and a dot marks another city. Boise has a star because it is Idaho's capital. Nearby Meridian has a dot. On this classroom map, the line from Boise to Meridian is one inch long. The scale says one inch stands for ten miles. Maya knows the map line shows about ten miles on the ground.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Use direction words to tell where the United States is compared with Canada and Mexico.

2. What grid square holds Washington, D.C.? Which two directions would you go from Idaho to reach that square?

3. Which place in B2 has the symbol for a state capital? What is its symbol?

4. Use the scale. About how many miles does the one-inch map line from Boise to Meridian show?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

In the box, sketch a simple map with north at the top. Label the United States, Idaho, Boise, Washington, D.C., and your community, then add letter-number grid labels, a legend for two symbols, and a scale that tells what one grid square stands for.

ANSWER KEY

Map Clue Hunt

GRADE 3 · 3.SS.2.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline direction words, circle each letter-number grid square, and draw a box around the sentences that explain the legend and the scale. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Use direction words to tell where the United States is compared with Canada and Mexico.	**The United States is south of Canada and north of Mexico.**
2	What grid square holds Washington, D.C.? Which two directions would you go from Idaho to reach that square?	**Washington, D.C., is in F3. From Idaho in B2, go east and south.**
3	Which place in B2 has the symbol for a state capital? What is its symbol?	**Boise has the star, which marks a state capital.**
4	Use the scale. About how many miles does the one-inch map line from Boise to Meridian show?	**About ten miles.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A sketch with north at the top shows the United States on a grid with columns A through F and rows 1 through 3. Idaho is in B2. A star marks Boise in Idaho, and a dot marks my community, Nampa, nearby. A dot marks Washington, D.C., in F3. The legend says star = state capital and dot = other city. The scale says one square = about 500 miles.

Accept grid locations and scales that differ from the sample if the places are in sensible relative positions and the legend and scale are clear. A student's community may be outside Idaho.