Map a Town

Use directions and land features to plan a map.

3.P.2.3.B "Describe the community and state's human and physical environment by creating and using maps, graphs, and other geographic models, including aerial photography."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the direction words that place the library, bridge, and park near the school, and circle two natural features to help plan a map.

A Look at Cedar Bend

1. Imagine you live in Cedar Bend, a made-up town in Oregon. A river runs from north to south along the east side of town. Low hills rise west of town, and a flat field lies between the hills and the river. These are parts of the land. A map can show where each feature is without showing every tree or rock.

2. People have changed the flat field. They built a school near the middle of it and a library south of the school. A road runs east from the school to a bridge over the river. On the far side of the bridge is a neighborhood. A park lies north of the school, beside the river.

3. An aerial photo is taken from above the ground. It can show the shapes of roads, buildings, and the river. A map adds labels and a north arrow to help people find places. A town map can show small details, such as a single road. A map of Oregon would cover more land but show less detail about Cedar Bend.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. If north is at the top of a map, where would you place the park compared with the school and river?

2. Which direction would you travel from the school to reach the bridge?

3. Where would you place the hills and the river compared with the school?

4. How could an aerial photo and a labeled map each help you find the park? Give one way for each.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Draw a map of a new town you invent. Add a north arrow, label two natural features and two things people built, then write one sentence explaining how one built feature helps people use or get around a natural feature.

ANSWER KEY

Map a Town

GRADE 3 · 3.P.2.3.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the direction words that place the library, bridge, and park near the school, and circle two natural features to help plan a map. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	If north is at the top of a map, where would you place the park compared with the school and river?	**North of the school and beside the river.**
2	Which direction would you travel from the school to reach the bridge?	**East.**
3	Where would you place the hills and the river compared with the school?	**The hills go west of the school, and the river goes east of it.**
4	How could an aerial photo and a labeled map each help you find the park? Give one way for each.	**An aerial photo could show the river and nearby buildings. A labeled map could name the park and show it north of the school.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The map has a north arrow pointing up. It labels a pond and a hill as natural features, with a walking path around the pond and a picnic shelter near the hill. The walking path helps people get around the pond.

Accept other accurate descriptions of the locations in Cedar Bend. For the map, check for a north arrow, four labeled features, and a sentence that connects a built feature to a natural one.