

Map Clue Detectives

Use a title, directions, and a legend to understand a map.

2.3.A "identify and use information on maps and globes using basic map elements such as title, cardinal directions, and legend; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the words **title**, **cardinal directions**, and **legend**, then underline the sentence in each paragraph that tells how that map part helps you.

Reading a Park Map

- ① A map helps you learn about a place from above. Its title tells what place or idea the map shows. A map called "Places at Pine Park" would show parts of Pine Park, not every place in town.
- ② Cardinal directions help you find where things are. North is up on many maps, south is down, east is right, and west is left. A compass rose can show these directions with the letters N, S, E, and W.
- ③ A legend explains the meaning of map symbols. For example, a blue line in a legend might mean a river, while a small tree shape might mean a picnic area. Read the title, directions, and legend before using a map.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

What does a map title tell you?

2

Which cardinal direction is on the right side of many maps?

3

Why do you use a map legend?

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan a map for an imaginary pet park. Fill the five rows with a title, a compass direction note, two legend symbols and meanings, and a sentence that uses a cardinal direction to tell where one symbol is. On separate paper, draw this map with its title, compass and legend. Give it to a partner. Have your partner point to the title, use the legend to find both features, and use the compass to check your location sentence together.

MAP ELEMENT	YOUR MAP INFORMATION

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the words **title**, **cardinal directions**, and **legend**, then underline the sentence in each paragraph that tells how that map part helps you. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does a map title tell you?	It tells what place or idea the map shows.
2	Which cardinal direction is on the right side of many maps?	East.
3	Why do you use a map legend?	A legend explains what the map symbols mean.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

MAP ELEMENT	YOUR MAP INFORMATION
Title	Paws and Play Park
Compass	N is at the top of my map.
Legend symbol 1	A circle means a water bowl.
Legend symbol 2	A star means a play tunnel.
Location	The play tunnel is east of the water bowl.

Accept answers that correctly state the passage ideas for the three questions. For the table, accept any original park plan with a clear title, a cardinal-direction note, two explained symbols, and a correct directional location sentence. Provide drawing paper and a partner. Require an actual map matching the plan; observe identification of the title and actual use of the legend and compass. The symbol positions must support the location sentence. Help partners check and revise any mismatch.