

TOPIC: Geography
GRADE LEVEL: 4 - 6
TIME: 30 - 45 min.

USING A MAP INDEX

OBJECTIVE: The student will learn to use a map index by completing this activity.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. One copy of the Student Data Sheet for each student and/or transparency to be used with an overhead projector and screen.
2. One copy of the Student Activity Sheet for each student (optional, as it can be easily read to the students by the teacher).

PROCEDURE:

1. Review all of the road symbols that appear in the map key on the Student Data Sheet and ask students to locate an example of each on the map.
2. Explain the function of a map index by reading with the students the information printed on the Student Data Sheet and completing the instructions together.
3. Proceed to Student Activity Sheet and either have students complete it individually or work through it as a class.
4. As an extension of the activity, the students could create their own map including a legend and an index.

Using a Map Index

KEY

○ TOWN	MARKERS & HIGHWAYS	----- STATE BOUNDARY	----- COUNTY BOUNDARY
★ STATE CAPITAL		==== MULTI-LANE DIVIDED	◆ SMALL NUMBERS SHOW DISTANCE BETWEEN DIAMONDS.
▲ REST AREA		==== DIVIDED	
✈ AIRPORT		----- UNPAVED	
		○ INTER-STATE	○ FEDERAL

SCALE

MILES: 0 10 20 30 40

KILOMETERS: 0 10 20 30 40

INDEX

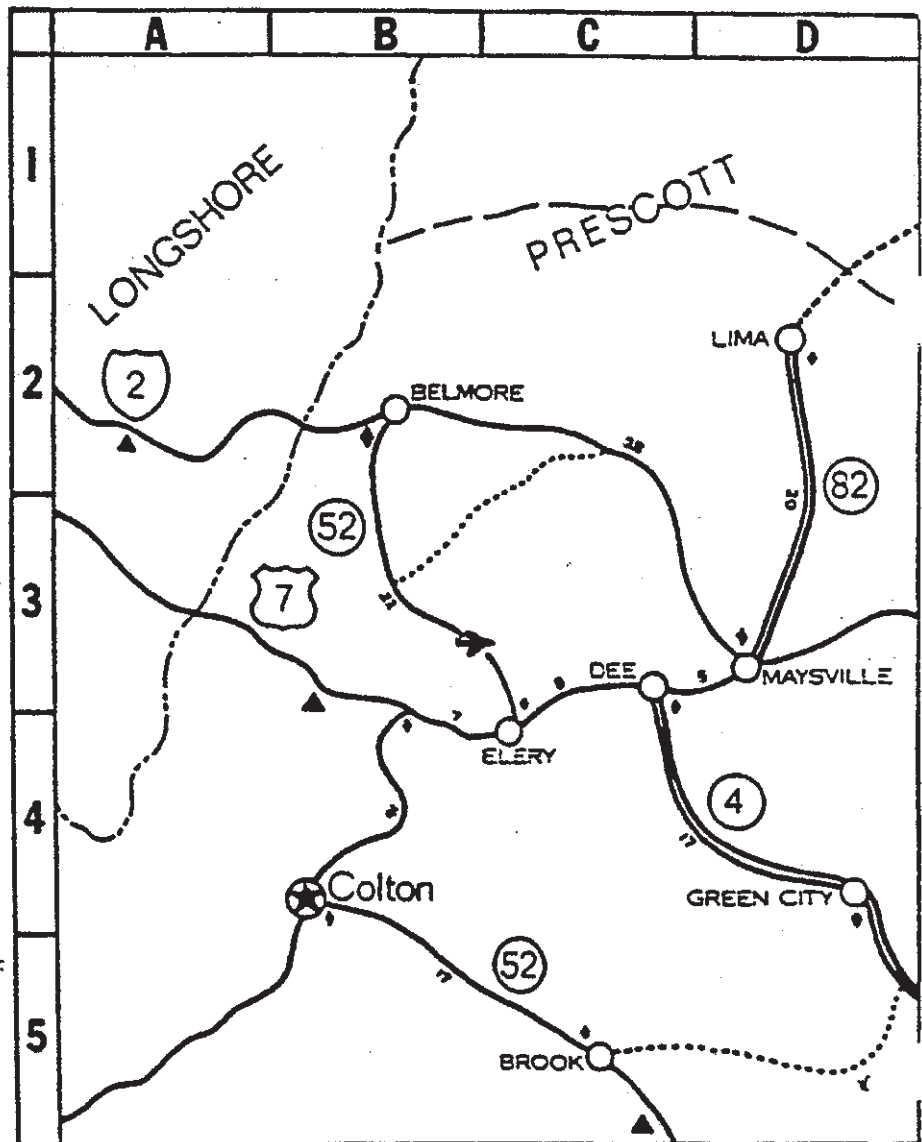
Belmore	B	2
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

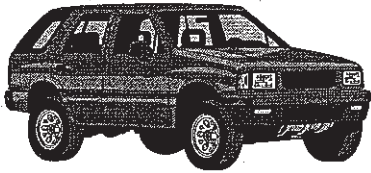
Using a Map Index

A map index lists the places on a map in alphabetical order. An index is used to help you find particular places or locations on a map. For example, look at Student Data Sheet.

This is a cross sectional of two imaginary states, Longshore and Prescott. Complete the map index for the state of Prescott.

According to this index, the town of Belmore can be located at B.2. At the top of the map, find the letter B. At the side of the map, find the number 2. Where point B intersects with number 2, the town of Belmore is located. Now, using this same method, key the locations of the other seven towns listed in the index.





On The Road (Using a Map Index)

A map like this can be used when taking a trip.

The map key tells what the symbols on the map mean.

Use the key to find what kind of road connects Lima and Maysville.

What other kinds of roads can you find on the map?

Along the edges of the map are lines with either numbers or letters between them. These help you find a town, city or point of interest on the map. For example, the city of Belmore is found in the box made by the lines of letter B and number 2. Where is the city Elery found?

Once you can read a road map, you can see all the different ways of going from place to place.

If you were planning a trip from Belmore to Green City you could find several ways to go. First find Belmore in B - 2. One way to get to Green City would be to drive south on Route 52. Then drive east on Route 7 to Dee. Then drive southeast on Route 4 and soon you will be in Green City. On this trip you drive on a state road and a federal road.

What is another way of going from Belmore to Green City?

The map can also tell you how far you have to drive between two towns. If you took Route 82 from Lima to Maysville and then took Route 7 from Maysville to Elery, you could add up the miles marked on the map. The numbers next to the roads show the distances between the small black diamond on the map. So this distance from Lima to Elery is $20 + 5 + 8 = 33$.

What is the total distance from Lima to Brook if you go through Colton?

You can also use the scale from the map key to find distance.

Using the map, try planning your own trip. See if you can include a stop at a campground or an airplane trip. When you use the road map, it is easy to make an interesting vacation plan.