Social Studies Vocabulary

Map Scale – a measured line on a map that helps us measure the distance from one place to another.

Physical Features – features on Earth that are created by nature. (Mountains, plains, and hills)

Symbols – A drawing that stands for something real. They stand for a real thing in a real place.

Compass Rose – It shows cardinal and intermediate directions. It is a guide on maps to show direction.

Grid – Crossing lines that divide a map into a pattern of squares. It helps you locate places on a map.

Map Key – Tells what the symbols on a map stand for. It helps you locate things, such as capitals, on a map.

Map – A representation, usually on a flat surface, that shows the features of an area of the earth.

Globe – A model of the Earth; it is a sphere shaped like the Earth.

Atlas – A book of maps.