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**Map Skills Vocabulary Terms**

1. **Compass Rose:** a symbol that shows directions on a map
2. **Map Scale:** the guide that tells what the distance on a map equal in the real world
3. **Map Legend:** another name for a map key, the guide to what the pictures or symbols on a map stand for
4. **Latitude:** the distance north or south of the Equator measured in degrees
5. **Longitude:** the distance east or west of the Prime Meridian measured in degrees
6. **Prime Meridian:** the line of longitude from the South Pole to the North Pole measured at 0 degrees.
7. **Equator:** the imaginary line that goes around the middle of Earth. It divides Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.
8. **Continents:** a very large body of land.
9. **Political map:** a map that shows the boundaries between political areas, such as states or nations.
10. **Physical map:** features of a place or region formed by nature, such as bodies of water, landforms, climate, and natural resources
11. **Relative Location:** Describes a place in relation to what it is near or around.
12. **Absolute Location:** An exact position based on the grid system of lines of latitude and longitude.