

Social Studies  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Unit: Geography

Dear Parents,

Over the next several weeks, we will be studying Geography in Social Studies. I am sending home some information that will show you what your child is expected to learn during the unit.

It would be helpful if you review this material with your child at home. I will give at least one week notice of the test date. It would be helpful to "study" a small portion each night rather than trying to review it all right before the test.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

The Second Grade Teachers

Essential Questions and Answers:

Question:	Answer:
1. What are the parts of a map?	The main parts of a map are the map key, symbols and the compass rose.
2. How do we use maps to gain information?	We sometimes use maps to learn more about different places on the earth. We sometimes use maps to help us find where we are going.
3. How do humans change the Earth's land?	Some ways that humans change the land on Earth are by building things, growing things and digging for resources.
4. How are people and places organized on Earth?	People and places are organized on the Earth by continent, country, city, and landform.

# Vocabulary

Word:	What it is:	Example:
map	A drawing of a real place	I use a map to find out how to get to a place I have never been.
symbols	Objects on a map that stand for real things	A bench on a map might stand for a park.
map key	Place on a map that tells what the symbols mean	I use the map key to see that bench stands for a park.
direction	Any way that someone faces, points or moves.	North, South, East and West are directions.
compass rose	A symbol that shows directions. The main directions are north, south, east and west.	The compass rose helps me see which way is North on a map.
globe	A model of the Earth.	The globe is shaped like a sphere and looks like the Earth.
continent	The largest landforms on Earth.	There are seven continents. They are North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Antarctica.
ocean	The largest bodies of water on Earth.	There are four oceans. They are Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean and Arctic Ocean.
country	An area of land that has boundaries and a government.	We live in the country called the United States of America.
city	An area larger than a town where people live and work.	We live close to a city called Philadelphia.
landforms	The shapes of the land on Earth.	Some landforms are plains, mountains, hills, islands, valleys and plateaus.