

## Geography: The Land and Minnesota

MN Studies 6  
Unit 1 Notes 2

Learning Target 1: I can use and create maps.

## What is Geography?



**Geography: The study of places and the people who live in them.**

Minnesota's story is partly shaped by its Geography.

We will look at the location of landforms, natural and man-made features, and where events took place.

We will be using many maps of Minnesota and other regions as tools to understand Minnesota's past and present.

## Important Map Tools

Important to each map we use are the tools that help us understand what we are looking at. We have an acronym for these tools:

# T.O.D.A.L.S.S.

## Valleyfair T: Title



**The Title of the map tells us what we are looking at.**

What do you think the Title of this map should be?

**Add a title to the map in your notes.**

## O: Orientation

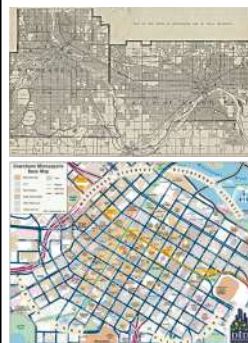


**The Orientation of the map tells us what direction the map faces and which way is north.**

The orientation helps the reader of the map understand where they are and which direction to go.

Orientation is also known as a COMPASS ROSE.

## D: Date



**The Date of the map tells us when the map was made.**

It helps to know how long ago the map was made. Perhaps you're looking at a historic map. Things may have changed since the map was made. An old map might be out of date.

## A: Author

The Author of the map tells us who made the map.

This might be the *cartographer* who drew the map or a company who worked to make the map.

Based on their reputation, which of these cartoon personalities would you trust more to make a reliable map?

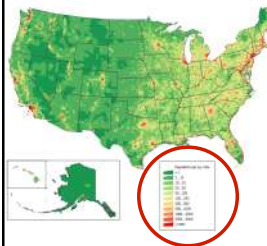


Homer Simpson



Jimmy Neutron Boy Genius

## L: Legend



The Legend of the map tells us what the symbols and colors on the map mean.

This can also be called a KEY.

## S: Scale

The Scale of the map tells us the distances shown on the map compared to their actual distances.

Example: 1 inch = 50 miles

You can use the scale to help you know how far apart locations are.



## S: Source

The Source of the map tells where the information on the map came from.

The source is different from the author. The author uses information from the source to make the map.

