

Unit 2 SOCIAL STUDIES VOCABULARY

1 map

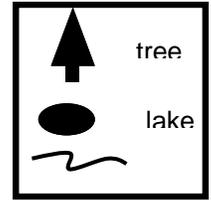
a drawing that shows what a place looks like from above



Example: A map could show a city, river or country.

2 map key

something that shows what the symbols on a map stand for



Example: A map key helps us understand a map.

3 symbol

Something that stands for something else.



Example: A curvy line could be a symbol for a river.

4 direction words

words like north, south, east and west



Example: Direction words are used to help describe where places are.

5 location

where a place is found



Example: A community has a location. You can find its location on a map.

6 natural characteristics

Things that were not made by humans; things that come from nature.



Examples: Tree and lakes are natural characteristics.

7 human characteristics

things that were made by humans



Example: Bridges, roads and buildings are human characteristics.

8 transportation

different ways to move people and goods from one place to another



Example: Cars, trains and buses are part of transportation.

9 landforms

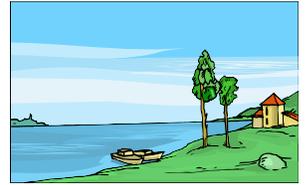
different kinds of land on the Earth



Example: Mountains, hills and valleys are different landforms.

10 bodies of water

different kinds of water on the Earth



Example: Oceans, lakes and ponds are different bodies of water.

11 mountain

the highest kind of land



Example: It is hard to build a community on a mountain.

12 hill

land that rises up high but not as high as a mountain



Example: Some communities have hills in them.

13 plain

land that is mostly flat



Example: Plains often have good farm land.

14 valley

low land between mountains



Example: Some communities are built in valleys.

15 ocean

the largest body of water and its water is salty



Example: Oceans are so big you cannot see across them.

16 lake

a body of water that has land around it



Example: Lakes can be many different sizes.

17 pond

a small body of water that has land around it



Example: Ponds are smaller than lakes.

18 river

a long body of water that flows through the land.



Example: Rivers often flow into a large body of water like an ocean.

19 wetland

areas that are often wet and have special plants and animals



Example: People often fill in wetlands in order to build things like roads and houses.

20 consequence

something that happens as a result of an action a person or group takes

Example: Changing the natural characteristics of a community has consequences.

21 negative consequences

bad things that happen as a result of an action a person or group takes



Example: Littering in a community has negative consequences.

22 positive consequences

good things that happen as a result of an action a person or group takes



Example: Picking up litter in a community has positive consequences.

23 state

one of the 50 parts of our country



Example: States have their own land, borders, and government.

24 country

50 states make up our country, the United States of America



Example: I live in the country of the United States of America.

25 continent

the largest pieces of land on Earth



Example: We live on the continent of North America.

26 world

the large ball of land and water on which we live



Example: The name of our world is Earth.