Imagine you’re going on a vacation to Europe. “Here,” says your brother, “stick this globe in your pocket.” A globe in your pocket? Ouch. “No thanks,” you reply. “I’ll take this map instead.” Good idea. Maps are easy to carry around. Maps are flat drawings of the Earth or places on the Earth. A map can be folded to fit in your backpack. Maps can show more detail than globes. A map can show streets and buildings and help you find the places you want to visit.

Even though you probably don’t take globes on vacation, there are many good uses for them. A globe is a model of the Earth. It is the same shape as the Earth. On a globe, you can see the Earth’s lands and oceans just as they appear on Earth, only much smaller, of course.
Find Europe on the globe on page 4. Now find Europe on the world map at the bottom of the same page. Europe looks more stretched out on the map than it does on the globe. The globe shows Europe’s real shape. While maps are easy to use, they do not show the exact shapes of the Earth’s land and water. That’s because a map turns the ball-shaped Earth into a flat picture.

1. Maps and globes divide the world into seven large areas of land called **continents**. Look at the map on the opposite page and find the seven continents—North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and Antarctica.

2. On the same map, find the Earth’s five oceans—Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic, and Southern.

3. Look at the picture of the globe on page 4. What continents do you see? What oceans do you see?

If you traveled to outer space and took a picture of the Earth, your picture would look something like the picture above. You would see some continents and oceans. You would also see clouds and weather patterns over the planet.

Many satellites orbit the Earth from space. Some of these satellites have cameras. This picture is called a **satellite image** because it was taken from a camera on a satellite.

4. Match the numbers on the satellite image above with the following continents—North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Antarctica, and Australia.

5. Match the letters with the following oceans—Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean, Arctic Ocean, and Southern.
Map Keys
Maps can show many different kinds of information. They can show physical features such as mountains and rivers, or human-made features like roads and buildings. Maps use symbols to stand for real things. A **map key** or **legend** shows you the meaning of the symbols on a map.

Look at the **physical map** of Asia below. It is called a physical map because it shows physical or natural features of the Earth, such as mountains, rivers, and oceans.

**A Physical Map of Asia**

Use the map key and map to help you answer the following questions.

6. Name two rivers in Asia.
7. Name three mountain ranges on the map.
8. What is the highest point in Asia?
9. What is the lowest point in Asia?
10. What three oceans surround Asia?
11. What three continents other than Asia are shown on this map?
12. What two mountain ranges separate Asia from Europe?
Japan is an island country and is part of the continent of Asia. Its location on the Earth is shown on the locator globe in the upper left corner of the map. You can see several symbols on this map of Japan. What do these symbols stand for? While you might be able to guess what some of these symbols mean, it is better to look at the map key in the lower right corner of the map. For example, a black dot is the symbol for a city, while a star in a circle is the symbol for the capital city.

13. What is the capital of Japan?
14. What mountain peak is not far from the city of Tokyo?
15. Name two other cities on this map.
16. Is there an airport near the city of Sapporo?
17. Is there a temple near the city of Kyoto?
18. What body of water separates the islands of Japan from the mainland of Asia?
The big and busy city of Tokyo is the capital of Japan. The map below shows a section of central Tokyo. If you travel to Tokyo someday, you might visit many of the places shown on this map.

Use the map and map key above to locate some of the places you might see on a visit to Tokyo.

19. Name two gardens in central Tokyo.

20. What train station is closest to Yoyogi Park?

21. Name the two shrines on this map.

22. What major street is close to both the Akasaka Palace and the National Stadium?

23. Name one garden you could visit if you walked outside of the National Stadium.

24. In what park is the Meiji Jingu Shrine located?

25. If you go to a theater near the Supreme Court, you can see traditional Japanese plays. What is the name of this theater?

26. What museum is closest to the cemetery?
In Tokyo, the old and new sit side by side. You can visit the peaceful Imperial Palace, and then walk down noisy city streets lined by modern buildings.

Skill Builder

Review
1. Which shows the true shape of the continents, a globe or a map?
2. Which can show clouds or weather patterns, a globe or a satellite image?
3. Name the Earth’s seven continents and five oceans.

Use the map on page 4 to answer the following questions.
4. Which ocean surrounds Antarctica?
5. Name two oceans that touch Europe.
6. Name two continents that touch the Indian Ocean.

Use the physical map of the world on pages 64-65 to answer the following questions.
7. What is the highest point in South America?
8. What is the lowest point in Australia?
9. Name two rivers in Africa.
10. Name two mountain ranges found in North America.
11. Name one mountain range in South America.
12. Name one mountain range in Europe.

Try It Yourself
Use the map of the United States on pages 70-71 to find the place where you live. Then find this same place on the world map on page 4 and on the satellite image on page 5.