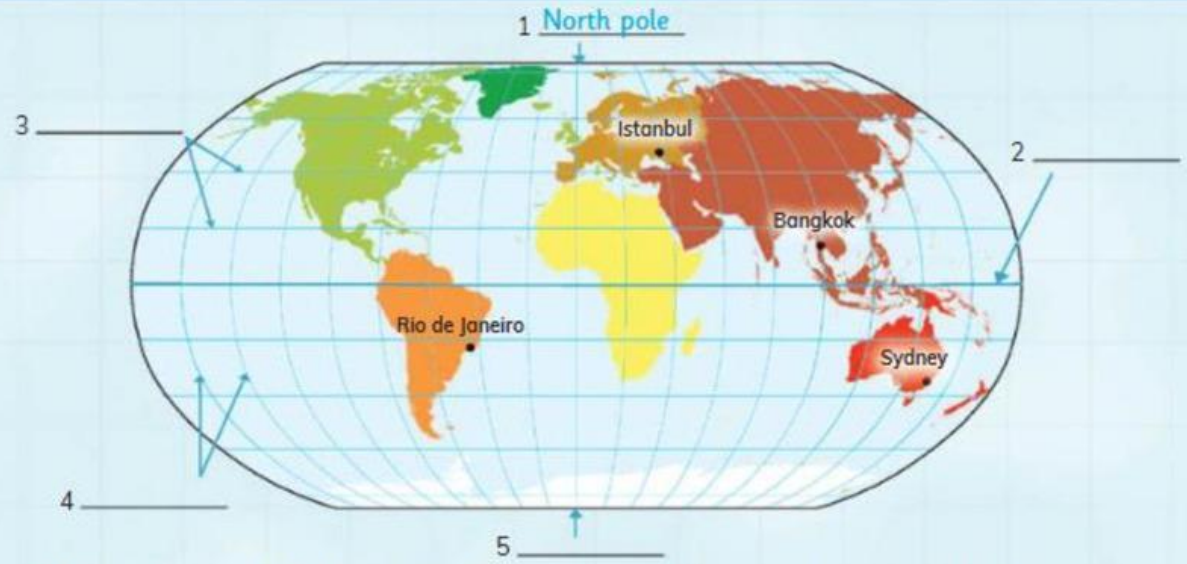


Planet Earth is huge, so how do we pinpoint the exact location of places on our planet?

We map the Earth's surface with lines called **latitude** and **longitude**. Imagine our planet as a huge ball or sphere. At one end is the **North Pole** and at the other, the **South Pole**. In the middle, circling the Earth between the two poles, is an imaginary line called the **equator**. Its line of latitude is zero degrees (0°). More lines of latitude circle the Earth from east to west, parallel to the equator. They are the same distance apart (about 111 km); each distance is measured in degrees, 0–90° to the north and 0–90° to the south.

Lines of longitude run from the North Pole to the South Pole. The lines divide the Earth's surface into vertical sections, like pieces of an orange. These lines are measured in degrees too, 0–180° to the east and 0–180° to the west.

What happens when a location is between the lines? We divide the degrees into minutes and seconds, so the exact location can be found. This code is called a coordinate.

Remember that these are imaginary lines – you can't actually see them!

Key words: map reading

pinpoint: to find out or say the exact position

pole: the most northern and southern points of the Earth

degree: a unit of measurement

parallel: two lines of equal distance apart

vertical: standing upwards

coordinate: a code with numbers and letters that shows exact positions on a map

Exercise 1: Read the text and label the Earth diagram

Exercise 2: Choose the correct answer for each question.

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1. What are the lines called that help us find the exact location on Earth?
   a) Borders and roads
   b) Latitude and longitude
   c) Time zones
   d) Circles and triangles

2. What is the name of the imaginary line that circles Earth in the middle?
   a) Prime Meridian
   b) Timeline
   c) Equator
   d) Horizon

3. What is the degree of the equator?
   a) 90°
   b) 180°
   c) 45°
   d) 0°

4. How do latitude lines run across the Earth?
   a) From North Pole to South Pole
   b) In circles around cities
   c) From east to west
   d) From Australia to Europe

5. What is a coordinate used for?
   a) To draw circles
   b) To measure speed
   c) To find exact locations on a map
   d) To describe directions using colors

6. What do longitude lines divide the Earth into?
   a) Continents
   b) Horizontal strips
   c) Oceans
   d) Vertical sections

Exercise 3: **Instructions:** Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the box below.
Word bank: pinpoint, pole, vertical, coordinate, degree, parallel

1. A _____ is a unit used to measure distances in latitude and longitude.
2. The North Pole is an example of a _____.
3. We use a _____ to give the exact location of a place on a map.
4. The teacher asked us to _____ the city on the map using its exact position.
5. Lines of longitude are _____ lines that go from the North Pole to the South Pole.
6. Latitude lines run in _____ lines from east to west, never crossing each other.

LIVEWORKSHEETS