

W6 Thursday 3: Geography - OS Map symbols

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Watch this video to remind yourself of some of the things you already know about maps.

[Geography | KS1 | KS2 | Maps | BBC Teach](#)
BBC Teach



printouts

W6 Thursday 3... PDF

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If you have any OS maps at home it would be great to unfold them, spread them out on the floor and have a good look!

Examine the key, the legend, of the map as we're going to understand what all those symbols mean!

Here is a link to a BBC Bitesize page where Sue Venir can help you understanding map symbols.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvsfr82/articles/zjdkhbk>

ROADS AND PATHS

Not necessarily rights of way

	Service area		Elevated		Motorway (dual carriageway)
	Junction number		Unfenced Dual carriageway		Primary Route (A network of recommended through routes which complement the motorway system)
	A 470		Footbridge		Main road
	A 493		Road under construction		Secondary road
	B 4518		Narrow road with passing places		Road generally more than 4m wide
	A 855		Road generally less than 4m wide		Other road, drive or track
	B 885		Path		Track multiple or single
	Bridge		Track under construction		Light rail system
	Ferry P		Footpath		Narrow gauge or tramway
	Ferry V		Bridleway		Bridges, footbridge
	Restricted byway (not for use by mechanically propelled vehicles)		Tunnel, cutting		Station, (a) principal
	Byway open to all traffic		Siding		Light rail system station
			Level crossing		Level crossing
			Viaduct, embankment		Viaduct, embankment

	Cutting, embankment		Landfill site or slag/spoil heap
	Electricity transmission line (pylons shown at standard spacing)		Coniferous wood
	Pipe line (arrow indicates direction of flow)		Non-coniferous wood
	Buildings		Mixed wood
	Important building (selected)		Orchard
	Bus or coach station		Park or ornamental ground
	Glass structure		Solar farm (when not described)
	Graticule intersection at 5' intervals		Access land (symbols indicate owner or agency - see below)
	Helipoint		Forestry and Land Scotland, Forestry England
	Current or former place of worship; with tower with spire, minaret or dome		Natural Resources Wales
	Place of worship		National Trust, always open, limited access - observe local signs
	Triangulation pillar		National Trust for Scotland; always open, limited access - observe local signs
	Mast		Forestry Division Plantation (Isle of Man)
	Wind pump		Manx National Heritage
	Wind turbine		
	Windmill with or without sails		

	Viewpoint 180°		Camp site / Caravan site
	Viewpoint 360°		Camping and caravan site
	Visitor centre		Selected places of tourist interest
	Walks / trails		Information centre, all year / seasonal
	Nature reserve		Parking
	Picnic site		Park & Ride, all year / seasonal
	Youth hostel		Phone, public / emergency
	Golf course or links		Recreation / leisure / sports centre
	Garden / arboretum		World Heritage site or area

Geography—OS Map Symbols

You will need to open the PDF's of some OS legends on your computer and use it to match up the following symbols with the right words...

	Main road		
			PH
			Picnic site
	School		

A few have been done for you! 😊

Match these to their symbols: (type or write next to the symbols)

- main road,
- wind turbine
- church with tower,
- coniferous wood,
- Public house
- secondary road,
- bridge,
- church with spire,
- World Heritage site
- mixed wood,
- site of battle (and date)
- public house,
- church,
- 360 degree viewpoint
- non-coniferous wood,
- school,
- principal railway station,
- information centre
- road more than 4m wide,
- canal,
- picnic site
- footpath,
- other road,
- post office,
- railway track,
- motorway