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# Year 5 Geography Knowledge Organiser Spring Term 2026

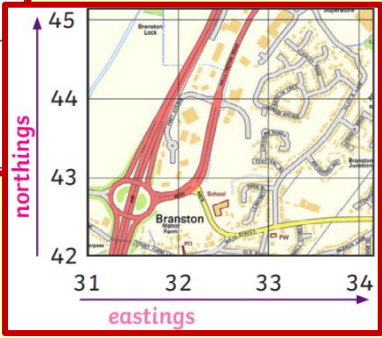
This term, in Geography, we will explore a range of maps available to geographers and develop our understanding of the key features found on maps. These include using: atlases, digital mapping tools and Ordnance Survey maps. We will learn how to use the eight compass points to give directions and give grid references to locate places on a map. Through comparison and contrast of maps, we will see how our local area has developed overtime.

### Symbols

- Maps use **symbols** instead of words to label real-life features.
- A key on the map tells you what the **symbol** means.

	Nature Reserve		Cycle Trail		Footpath
	Motorway		Train Station		Place of Worship

### Key Knowledge



### Key Vocabulary

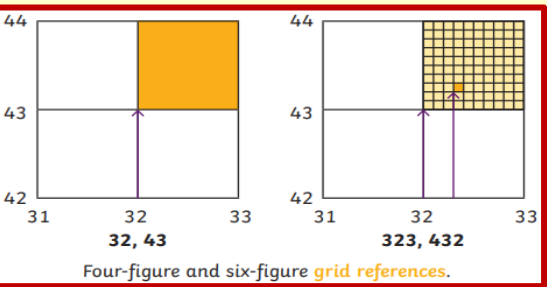
atlas    compass  
 easting    northing  
 key    symbols  
 grid references  
 digital map  
 Ordnance Survey map  
 National Grid

### The National Grid

- The **National Grid** is a **grid reference** system for the whole of Great Britain.
- It splits Great Britain into squares - each is 100km.
- The spaces can be identified by using two letters e.g. SK
- Easting** and **northing** numbers can be used to split the squares into smaller sections making them easier to use.

### Compass Points

Four-Point Compass	Eight-Point Compass
N - north	north (N)
E - east	north-east (NE)
S - south	east (E)
W - west	south-east (SE)
	south (S)
	south-west (SW)
	west (W)
	north-west (NW)



### Grid References

- A map is criss-crossed with horizontal and vertical lines that create a grid.
- The grid and squares help to narrow a search area so you can locate features on a map.
- Usually, the lines are numbered with two digits.
- Eastings** are the numbers that run from west to east.
- Northings** are the numbers that run from south to north.
- The **easting** and **northing** numbers are put together to create a four-digit **grid reference**, e.g. (32,43), which refers to the bottom left corner of a square on the map.
- Grid references** can be even more specific by adding an extra digit to both the **easting** and **northing** numbers.
- These six-digit **grid references**, e.g. (323,432), tell us more precisely whereabouts in the square something is.