

## Mapping the Marshes – KS2 & KS3

### Overview

<b>Description</b>	This workshop makes use of the Avalon Marshes Floor Map to explore the landscape of the Avalon Marshes and develop map skills.
<b>Equipment</b>	Avalon Marshes Floor Map kit: carpet tiles, compasses, map symbols, OS Symbol flashcards; image of the AM map (on a screen); metre rules
<b>Time</b>	60 minutes
<b>Curriculum</b>	KS2 Geography—use the eight points of a compass, four and six figure grid references, symbols and key, to build pupils’ knowledge of the UK KS3 Geography—understand how geographical processes interacts to create distinctive landscapes that change over time.
<b>Aims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore the Avalon Marshes landscape through a large map</li> <li>• Use common map symbols and cardinal points to understand the map</li> <li>• Work with scale</li> </ul>
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	By the end of the session all pupils should be able to:
<b>Linked resources</b>	Introduction to the Avalon Marshes <b>Pick &amp; Mix</b> – Wonderful Wetland Wildlife; Getting to Know Peat; Avalon Marshes Timeline; Mapping the Marshes; Water in the Wetlands; Avalon Marshes Quiz.



#### Notes on using the Avalon Marshes Floor Map:

- You will need a large clear space to use the floor map, as it measures 2m x 4m.
- Pupils can walk on the floor map during their exploration and activities, but please ask them to remove shoes first.
- When outing the carpet tiles back in the boxes, please make sure all edges and corners are laid flat.
- We recommend that you use the *Mapping the Marshes* Pick & Mix activity with the floor map.

## Teachers' notes -

### Introduction:

The 'Introduction to the Avalon Marshes – KS2' presentation compliments this session.

Start the session with an introduction to the Avalon Marshes. What are they? Where are they? What are some key characteristics of the Marshes? Look at a map on an interactive white board (find it here - <http://avalonmarshes.org/wp-content/uploads/Avalon-Marshes-map-2.pdf> - or in the *Mapping the Marshes* Pick & Mix activity).

Which way are north, south, east and west? Look at the outlying towns and villages – identify your town or village on the map. Where is your school? Are there any other familiar places? What do the different symbols mean?

### The Floor Map:

Set the class a team-working challenge by giving them a tile each and asking them to re-create the map they have just seen on the screen, on the floor.



### Symbols:

Begin the activity with a discussion on symbols.

Maps are marked with many features – our maps would be overrun with words if all of these points were written in text, making the maps difficult to read and understand.

So we use symbols to mark features on maps – What do we use for symbols? We use letters, lines, colours and pictures to show features, like campsites, public telephones, toilets, nature reserves, golf courses, parking and bus stations among many more.

Maps usually have a key or legend which show the symbols used on the map and explains their meanings.

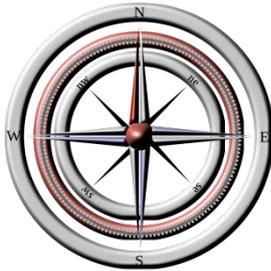
Use the OS Map symbol flashcards and discuss what the different symbols represent. Can any of them be used on this map?

# Avalon Marshes Floor Map

Find a nature reserve, toilet, church, public telephone, school. Place them on the map where you think you might find one. Why do you think you might find that there?

## Compass Points:

Hand out compasses to the group...



Explain: there are four main points on a compass – does anyone know what these are? North, East, South and West – these points run clockwise around the compass and are known as the Cardinal Points.

There are two phrases which can help you to remember the order of the cardinal points of North, South, East and West:

Naughty Elephants Squirt Water

Never Eat Shredded Wheat



The compass needle always points to the magnetic North, wherever you are in the world. The points can also be described in degrees on a circle, with North at 0° or 360°, East at 90°. South at 180° and West at 270°

By drawing a diagonal line between each of the cardinal points, you can create an eight-point compass, which shows each of the additional directions: North-East, South-East, South-West and North-West

## The three definitions of North (Optional):

1. Magnetic North – The direction in which any magnetic compass will point. Magnetic North is not actually at the North Pole – almost 800km south of the North Pole in Northern Canada. Not a fixed point, it moves very slightly every year.
2. Grid North – the directional North of the North – South vertical lines on a map
3. True North – the direction to the Earth's geographical North pole

Most maps are printed with North at the top of the map. Note which way north points on the Avalon Marshes Flood Map! Challenge pupils, one by one, to stand on the map at the Avalon Marshes Centre, facing North, and give the direction of a particular place. E.g. which direction is Wedmore? North. Panborough? North-East.

# Avalon Marshes Floor Map



## Scale

Maps are scaled down in size compared to the real landscape. The larger the number in the scale, the smaller the scale of the map and the less detail there will be on the map, as more is squeezed into a smaller area.

Note the scale of the map and use metre rules to measure the distance between different places. Use the scale to convert the measurement to real-life distance.



## Grid references

Label the map with letters and numbers to create a basic grid reference. Practice 4 and 6 figure grid references with your pupils, and ask them to set each other questions to test their grid-referencing.

## Extension

- Ask pupils to pretend they are guides on a tour bus travelling through the Avalon Marshes –they should describe to their passengers what interesting places they are passing, and what can be seen out of the window.
- Make 3D models to represent points of interest, and place them on the large map (e.g. the Sweet Track, Glastonbury Tor, Glastonbury Lake Village, Glastonbury Abbey, Fenny Castle). Or find images online of the Marshes, print them, and place them on the map.