

# OLD SCHOOL, NEW SCHOOL!

Newsletter from Maps for the Classroom / Map of the Month

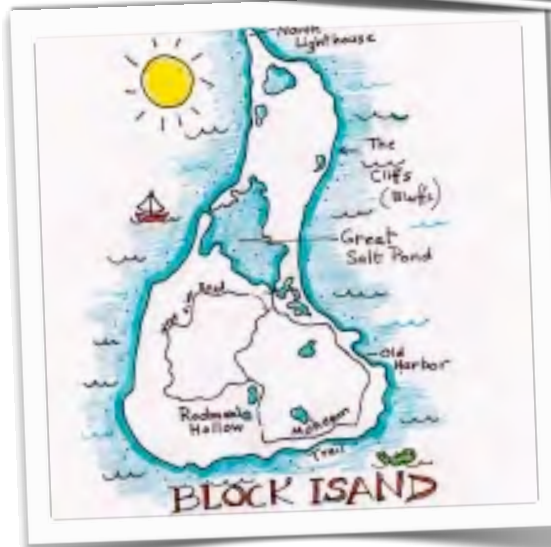
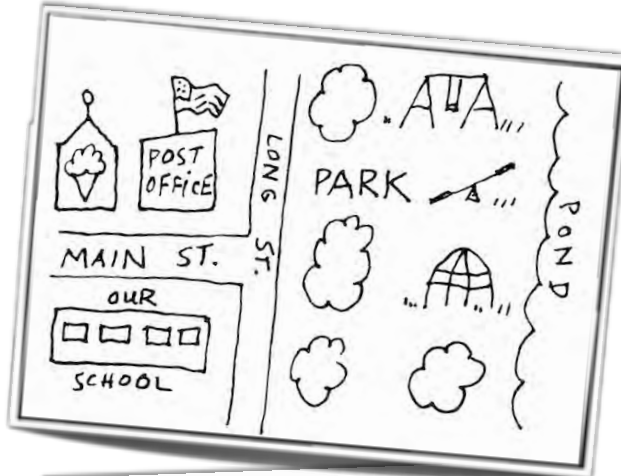
Volume 1 Issue 2

When students make their own maps, they develop the skills for reading and understanding other more complicated maps.

Many day-to-day places can inspire a map. Even the youngest students can map out their playground, school, household layout, library or even their favorite store.

This kind of activity combines the fun of illustration with other skills such as measuring, observing correct orientation, helpful labeling ... and more!

**Remind your students that one definition of a map is:  
A diagrammatic representation  
of an area showing  
physical features.**



## LOCAL LANDMARKS!

Your school street, or another major thoroughfare, can form a focal line of a map. The school, playground, neighboring buildings, vegetation, and more, can be arranged around it.

**SIMPLE MAPMAKING  
CAN BE FUN AND A  
LEARNING  
EXPERIENCE!**

## FAVORITE PLACE

We drew this simple map of our family's favorite vacation destination. The memories your students have of a place are enough to inspire a simple yet effective map!

## EXTRA CREDIT!

For WORLD EXPLORATION studies, have students draw the VESSELS that sailors called their "home away from home" for months at a time. It is not as easy as it looks to draw a ship with sails!



When we set out to design a map of the Westward Movement, we knew it was a big task! Many of you already know it's not easy to find a single resource that shows all the routes in one place. Now our map does just that!

To start the design, we used the outline of our most popular **USA, Places and Geographic Features** map. We changed the state lines to a pale grey: many of these lines did not exist at the time of the settlers so it's interesting to see them in the background for reference.

We felt it was essential to include physical geography on our map, to represent the challenging terrain that travelers faced. Certain routes meandered either to follow rivers or avoid difficult terrain. We also decided, after research, to show the "territories" that formed the USA before it became a country. This would also help teachers meet curriculum goals.

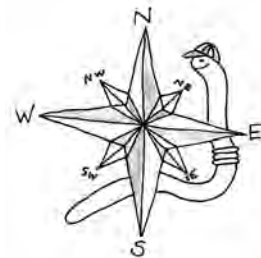
It was challenging to come up with enough "symbol" lines for the trails in the Map Key for so many **"TRAILS WEST!"**

## WHAT WE LEARNED....MAKING OUR TRAILS WEST MAP!

**READING LIST!** One of our favorite detailed reference books!  
**Atlas of North American Exploration:  
 From the Norse Voyages to the Race to the Poles**  
 by William Goetzmann

## WHO IS EARTHWORM ANYWAY?

When we began our business 25 years ago, we wanted a "Mascot" with a geography connection. This little guy has graced our maps since day one! Recently graduated, he's the "Principal" of our new "ALL AROUND WITH PROFESSOR EARTHWORM" map. He has insisted on **FREE DOWNLOADABLE EXTRAS** for that map -- all can be found on our [www.cartocraze.com](http://www.cartocraze.com) website!

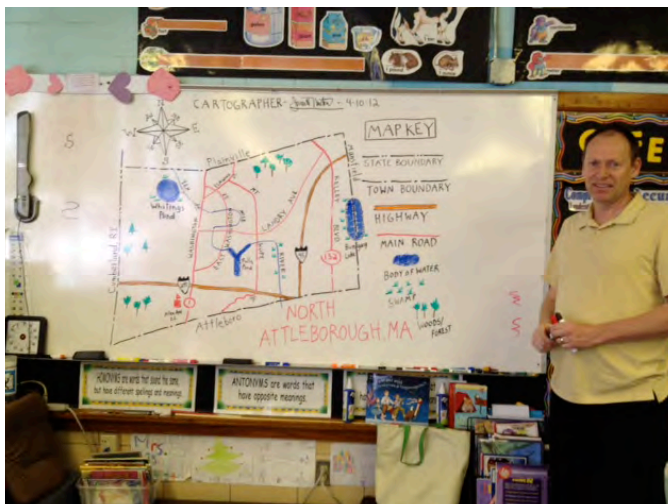


## It's MORE than just GEOGRAPHY....

When I first started presenting mapmaking workshops in the late 1980s, I was spurred on by news reports of how Americans had no sense of geography. My workshops led to more mapmaking and the formation of our family business **MAPS FOR THE CLASSROOM.**

I found the best thing about mapmaking is that it is **SO MUCH FUN!** What other activity in the classroom reinforces so many skills? Paper and pencil skills, reading, comprehension, math, drawing, organization, patience...and much more!

Kids love it -- and they learn more than just geography!



## CARTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS WITH JASON



# EVERY DAY!



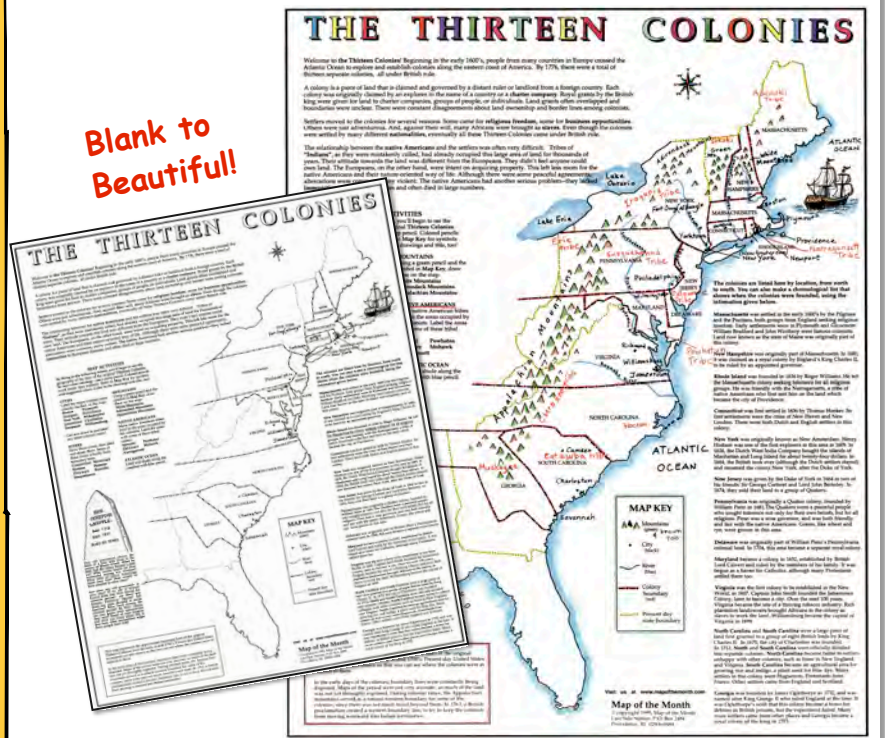
## Our PERPETUAL GEOGRAPHY QUESTION OF THE DAY CALENDAR

Present geography every school day when you use this calendar! Try these sample questions this week in your class!

1. What is the largest mountain **range** west of the Mississippi? What states have mountains in this range?
2. What states are not connected to the 48 **contiguous** states? What lies along the **boundaries**?
3. What is the United States **Census**? What city has the highest **population**?
4. What are the **dimensions** of your state? Do you know how many miles it is east to west, and north to south, at its widest points?
5. Can you define **hemisphere**? What hemisphere do you live in?

# How much do you and your students know about... THE THIRTEEN COLONIES?

Blank to Beautiful!



When we designed this map we wanted to present both the old colony boundaries as well as the lines for the states as we know them today. This helps us all see how the colonies were different! Did you know that the area that now makes up the state of MAINE was part of the MASSACHUSETTS colony?

If you use our "STEP-BY-STEP MAPPING" files on your whiteboard or projector, your students can follow along with the map in stages as they complete the activities and color -- it is a great visual KEY for your map! Don't forget that this map can support social studies, literacy and math too -- use the finished map in conjunction with reading and other projects!

## Very simply: we want your school to try our maps.

Call us for our special INTRODUCTORY OFFERS.  
We will work with you and your budget  
to help give our early map products --  
both hands-on and digital -- a try in your school.  
You won't be disappointed.

Get on board! Over 150 schools in MASSACHUSETTS know our maps support your curriculum -- and use them in their classrooms!

TRY OUR MAPS  
IN YOUR  
SCHOOL!

# MAPS FOR THE CLASSROOM

FROM MAP OF THE MONTH

PO BOX 2484

Providence RI 02906 TOLL FREE 888 876 6277

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ISSUE TWO of our  
**NEWSLETTER!**

Promoting **"OLD SCHOOL"**  
Pencil-on-paper skills!



Supporting **"NEW SCHOOL"** too--  
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**Earthworm says**  
We offer the  
**"BEST OF  
BOTH WORLDS!"**



## TOP TEN BODIES OF WATER in NORTH AMERICA we'd like to see!



1. GULF OF MEXICO
2. MISSISSIPPI RIVER
3. HUDSON BAY
4. ST. LAWRENCE RIVER
5. GULF OF CALIFORNIA
6. CARIBBEAN SEA
7. GULF OF ALASKA
8. RIO GRANDE
9. LAKE SUPERIOR
10. ARCTIC OCEAN

