LET'S EXPLORE WITH MAPS!
X MARKS THE SPOT!

Nature Cat and his friends found a treasure map. They saw where the map started and where the treasure could be found. The letter “x” marked the spot! Have you ever looked at a real map? Maps help people explore new places. How can you read a map?

First, identify where you are and where you need to go. Next, find a route to get there. Read a compass to find which direction you’re facing and where you need to go. Find out the scale of distance. Is it miles, feet, or paces? As you navigate, make sure to keep your eyes open to landmarks.

ON THE LOOKOUT!

Squeeks is always on the lookout for clues in nature! The treasure map the Nature Cat crew uses has pictures of landmarks, from a boulder to a Y-shaped tree. Squeeks knows that the pictures on the map represent real objects in nature. She uses her sense of sight and her great sense of adventure to find these landmarks.

Can you name the landmarks that might be useful? What can landmarks tell you?

FUN WITH COMPASSES!

Nature Cat and his friends use a compass to point them in the right direction. Compasses have four directions: north, south, east, and west.

Most maps also have a compass printed on them, called a compass rose. The compass rose tells you which way the route is going on the map, and the compass tells you which direction you’re facing. When the compass and compass rose line up, you’re going the right way.

To use a compass, lie it flat on your palm. Turn your body so the needle lines up with north, or “N!” You can find any direction if you know where north is. Use your compass skills in this fun game!
Hal wants to use exciting new map words he learned to map out where he buried his bones. But he can’t seem to remember any of the words! Can you help Hal to remember by completing this crossword of important map terms?

**Across**
3. To travel through new places.
6. Something of great value.
7. The way something is pointing or moving.
8. A tool that helps find direction.

**Down**
1. The length of a single step.
2. A very large stone.
4. The world and everything in it.
5. A clue that helps you recognize a location.

**GLOSSARY**

**compass:** An object that helps a person find out what direction they are going.

**landmark:** An object on land that’s easy to recognize.

**navigate:** To find the way to get to a place.

**route:** A way to get from one place to another.

**scale:** The relationship between distances on a map and the actual distance in real life.

**represent:** To stand for something else.