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|  | Australian Curriculum Year 5 Geography sample assessment ׀ Assessment resource  Investigating natural hazards |

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## Cartographic conventions

It is important that students know and understand cartographic conventions for representing geographic data and information on small-scale and large-scale maps.

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| Cartographic convention | Explanation |
| Border | * Positions the map within the white space of the page. * Defines the extent of the map. |
| Orientation | North point |
| Legend (or key) | List of the symbols and colours used:   * usually located in the bottom left- or right-hand corner * uses shading * identifies the symbols used, e.g. towns, railways, national parks. |
| Title | Defines the map’s location and its purpose. |
| Scale | The relationship (or ratio) between distance on a **map** and the corresponding distance on the ground.  For example, on a 1:100 000 **scale map**, 1 cm on the **map** equals  1 km on the ground. |
| Source | Where possible the source of the map should be acknowledged using an accepted referencing system such as author–date. |

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| This content and image has been adapted from QCAA resource: <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr_geography_07_adv_ass_geog_conv.pdf> |