

COLO-ROAD
TRIPS
-K TO 5TH GRADE-
EDUCATIONAL ITINERARIES

EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

Extra Credit: Exploring Maps
Trinidad Welcome Center

Pick up a map at the Official Colorado Welcome Center in Trinidad. For this activity, the free fold-out "Colorado: Official Map to Scenery and Adventure" by the Colorado Tourism Office works well.

Observation: Point out the scale bar on any map that has one (not all maps have a scale bar). Explain that scales help you determine actual land distances for places that have been reduced to fit on a smaller area. The scale bar often includes both miles and kilometers: 1 mile is 1.6 times larger than 1 kilometer. The scale bar on the "Colorado: Official Map to Scenery and Adventure" can be found in the mileage table.

Activity: Identify where you are and where you want to go next. This could be from Trinidad to La Junta (other ideas could be from a museum to a restaurant, or from State A to State B). Use a piece of paper, a piece of string or a ruler to measure the distance on the map. Compare the distance to the scale bar and estimate that distance in miles or kilometers.

Questions to Ask:

1. *How far away is your destination?*
2. *How long will it take for you to get there?*
3. *Will it make a difference if you walk, ride a bike or drive?*
4. *Pick another place to travel and compare the results.*

Activity: Find another map at the Welcome Center (or anytime you encounter a map during your trip) to explore the various parts of a map.

Questions to Ask All:

1. *What is the title of this map?*
2. *What is the scale of this map?*
3. *What area of the world does this map represent?*
4. *Does this map show a large area of the Earth's surface or a small area?*

K-2nd Grade Questions:

1. *How can you tell directions on this map?*
2. *What kinds of symbols are on this map?*
3. *What colors are on the map?*
4. *What kinds of labels are on this map?*

3rd-5th Grade Questions

1. *When was this map published? Are there other dates on this map?*
2. *Who produced this map?*
3. *What is the orientation of this map?*
4. *List the human and physical features on this map.*
5. *What kind of grid (latitude and longitude, alphanumeric) does this map use?*

Want to Learn More About Where You Will be Traveling?

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