

### Mapping My Fairy Tale



For this activity, kids will create an original full-color map based on a fairy tale you've read together.

Individual: each child chooses a fairy tale and works independently.

Small groups (2-3 kids): each group chooses a fairy tale and works collaboratively.

#### **Supplies**

- Pencils and art supplies: colored pencils, markers, crayons, paint. Colored construction paper (optional)
- Drawing paper or construction paper: 8-1/2 x 11 or larger. Or a roll of white paper or kraft paper
- Scotch tape, scissors
- School glue; masking tape or painters tape (optional)



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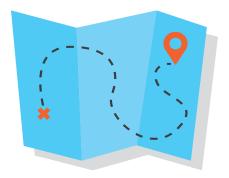
#### Get kids thinking

Talk about the <u>settings</u> in the fairy tales you read together. Use descriptive words like the "thick, dark woods" or the "shimmering castle".

Have each child choose a favorite fairy tale that creates a vivid picture about the world where the story takes place. Give kids time to imagine what that world looks like in their minds.

Tell kids that they will be creating their own map that shows the fairy tale setting as they see it. Ask kids to think about the elements they will want to include in the map.

#### Let's get started



Tape together two or more  $8-1/2 \times 11$  sheets of paper to create a large space for the map. If you have a roll of white paper or kraft paper, cut two feet or more for each map.

Here's a third option: create a "stand up" map by making a 3- or 4-panel an accordion fold with your sheet of paper —

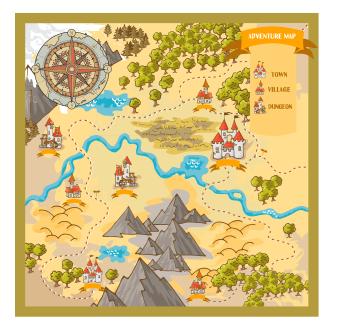
see the diagram on the right. This works best with heavier construction paper.

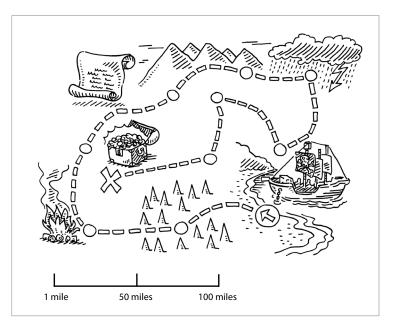
Although these fairy tale maps are imaginary, you can introduce kids to some of the basic elements of a real map. Kids can include these elements in their maps if they like:

- Title tells the viewer what this a map of.
- Compass Rose indicates North, South, East and West. Draw your own compass rose or use one of the graphics on page 9.
- Legend or key explains what the symbols on that map represent. For example, on the adventure map on the next page, you can see symbols for town, village, and dungeon.
- <u>Scale</u>: shows the relationship between a certain distance on the map and the actual distance. For example, one inch might represent one mile. See the pirate map on the next page.



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Tell the kids to sketch out their maps in pencil first, and then finish it in colored pencil, crayon, marker, or paint. Kids can also use cut paper to create some of the elements on their maps. Remind the kids to think about their descriptive words as they create the elements in their maps.

#### Sharing our work

When the maps are finished, tape them to the wall, and ask the kids to tell the fairy tale in their own words while pointing out important places on their maps.

#### Try this!

**Chalk Drawing:** Instead of drawing their maps on paper, kids can draw them with sidewalk chalk outdoors. Each child can give a "walking tour" of their fairy tale map. Take a picture of each child with their map so there's a record of their efforts!

Kids could also act out the fairy tale outside, and use their environment as the make-believe setting — shrubs and other plants (the forest!) steps or porches (the castle!), the sidewalk, boxes, or wagons (the ship!) ...



### The Compass Rose

Draw your own — or cut and glue one of these to your map

