**Mapping Skills Terms**

**Map:** a representation of the earth’s surface.

**Geography:** the science that studies the physical, biological, economic, political, and demographic characteristics of the earth’s surface.

**Longitude:** invisible lines that help to measure the earth’s surface east to west.

**Latitude:** invisible lines that help to measure the earth’s surface north to south.

**Compass Rose:** symbol on a map that tells the user which direction is north, south, east, and west.

**Title:** statement on a map that tells the reader what the map is describing or showing.

**Legend (Key):** a chart that explains the symbols or pictures used on a map.

**Scale:** a symbol on a map that explains how much smaller the map is compared to the area it represents.

**Inset:** a smaller map that is related to the larger map but gives different information than is shown on the larger map.

**Equator:** circle the middle of the earth at 0° latitude, and divides the earth into northern and southern hemispheres.

**Prime Meridian:** circles the earth at 0° longitude, and divides the earth into eastern and western hemispheres.