

## **Navigation: Maps**

PO.4, EO.1

### **Introduction**

To introduce this lesson, explain the land navigation techniques that are used in the Young Marines including maps and compasses. Explain that they will learn to read and use various types of maps and navigate with both maps and compasses, but that today, they'll just be learning the basics of topographical maps: identifying the various colors and symbols used on the maps. They'll be taught how to use the map when they get into the Basic Guidebook.

### **Direct Instruction**

The direct instruction portion of this lesson is more guided instruction than lesson. You will use the PowerPoint to go over all of the colors and symbols used on topographical maps. The PowerPoint also contains pictures of maps to demonstrate to the Recruits what these features look like on an actual map. As you address each color and symbol, the Recruits should be creating flashcards for each color and symbol to use as a study tool. Make sure to provide them with index cards and a writing utensil such as a pen, pencil, crayon, or marker. Also allow enough time for them to complete their cards before moving on to new slides. An alternative option would be to provide them with pictures of the colors and signs instead of having the Recruits draw them.

### **Independent/Group Practice**

Once the Recruits have created all of their cards and you've gone over all of the necessary items, break your Recruits into their teams and give each team a topographical map to examine. Have them spend a few minutes pointing out each of the features discussed. Assign an Adult Volunteer or Senior or Advanced Young Marine to each group to monitor their discussion and to point out any features they missed or couldn't identify.

### **Evaluation**

Once they are able to identify each feature, have the instructors give each group a large sheet of paper, pencils/pens, and crayons, colored pencils, or markers to use to create their own topographical map of an area of their home town. They can also choose to make up their own area if they prefer. This would be good for areas that do not have many topographical features to draw such as desert climates or parts of the Midwest that are mostly flat or if your Recruits are more creative.

The Recruits' knowledge of the colors and symbols used on topographical maps will be tested on a quiz and the final test, but the evaluation for this lesson takes place during the group practice as well as during the drawing of their own map. The instructor assigned to each group should be monitoring the progress of each group, paying particular attention to the colors and features the group is struggling with.

The reteaching portion of this lesson will take place within the small groups as needed with the instructors taking more time to explain to their groups any features they need to spend more time with and pointing out additional examples on other maps as needed. Make sure that the instructors know not to move on to drawing the maps until all of the Recruits in each team have a good understanding of the colors and features.

### **Reflection**

Wrap up the lesson by having Recruits discuss the importance of knowing how to read a map and match it to the features in an area. Finally, ask for volunteers to share the maps their teams

created. Invite the Recruits to compare and contrast the various maps, pointing out the different features each group chose to include. See if the Recruits can figure out which area different groups chose to represent and explain the importance for maps to be accurate.

Remind the Recruits that they will be tested on what they learned during the lesson and to use their flashcards as a study tool. Also let them know that Google Maps can be used as a study tool as they have a feature that shows the topography of different regions.