## Year Five and Six Geography Grid References

Maps have a grid system to help locate places with accuracy. The horizontal lines that divide the map are known as northings and the vertical lines are known as eastings. All of the eastings and northings are labelled with numbers that can be seen on all four edges of the map. By combining the numbers of the eastings and northings a grid reference is formed.


To find a place using a four-figure grid reference remember the rule: go 'along the corridor' before going 'up the stairs'. In this example, the grid reference for the square is 7233 .

## Key vocabulary

| eastings | vertical lines that divide up a <br> map |
| :--- | :--- |
| northings | horizontal lines that divide up <br> a map |
| grid <br> reference | corresponds to specific <br> square or location on a map |
| Ordnance <br> survey map | Ordnance Survey is Britain's <br> mapping agency |

By dividing up the square, a six-digit grid reference can be created that corresponds to a specific location on the map.


First find the four-figure grid reference for the square that the location is in: 72_33_. Then imagine this square is divided up into 100 smaller squares with 10 squares along each side.Remember the rule: go 'along the corridor' before going 'up the stairs'. The grid reference for the smaller square is 725333

