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Ambrose Finds His Way

a story-based map skills unit



Rewards

Ambrose just moved to Storylark Road and is trying to find his way around the neighborhood. But he can't seem to get the hang of cardinal directions, even though he is a cardinal!

Ambrose wants to have a party to meet his new neighbors. Can you help him get his invitations safely in the mail and delivered to the correct houses?

What You'll Find Inside

- Two story pages
- Three activities
- Four games



Starring
Ambrose



FREE Map Skills Mini Unit

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- Two story pages
- Three map skill activities
- Facts, trivia, and games



What You'll Find Inside

This map skills mini unit takes students on a story-based adventure. Read Ambrose's letters and help him mail out the invitations to his special party. Students will learn what a compass rose is as well as cardinal directions (north, south, east, west) and intercardinal directions (northeast, southeast, southwest, northwest). Then they'll use their skills by playing three map games.

You're Invited to My How-Do-You-Do Party!

Dear Reader,

Greetings from the north, south, east, and west! I'm Ambrose the Cardinal, and I just moved to Storylark Road. I'd like to throw a feather-flying party to meet my new neighbors, but I could really use some help with sending the invitations.

Here's the situation: Even though I am named after the **compass rose** and I am a cardinal, I still haven't gotten the hang of **cardinal directions**—north, south, east, and west. So since I'm new in town, I'm winging it a little when it comes to navigating. I need to use cardinal directions to figure out whose house is whose so I can address each invitation. And here on Storylark Road, the mail carrier still hand delivers each letter, which means I'll also need to find the post office to mail the invitations. You can see why I'm feeling a bit lost about the whole thing!

Wouldn't the baker reassure me that you're kind and smart and can help me figure it all out?

In my next letter, I'll be sending you your very own compass rose. We can use it to "navigate" Storylark Road together and make sure the party really takes flight!

Looking forward to your help!
- Ambrose



Dear Reader,

Here you are, just as promised—look on the next page for your very own compass rose! If you've never used one before, let me explain. A compass helps you find directions by showing you where north, south, east, and west are. Inside the compass, there's a tiny needle that always points north. This helps you figure out which way to go and find your way around town that next!

This cool tool is called a **compass rose** because the design looks like a flower. My mom named me Ambrose (see the "rose" in my name!) because we cardinals are known for our excellent sense of direction... though I admit I'm still learning! Sometimes even the experts need a little guidance. I'm so grateful for your help.

To make this compass rose officially yours, just fill out the cardinal directions. I've put instructions on the next page!

- Ambrose

Fill Out the Compass Rose

Are you excited about getting your very own compass rose? Let's fill it out so you can start finding your way (and helping me in the process)! The **white squares** on your compass rose show the **cardinal directions**—north, south, east, and west. These are the main directions. The **yellow squares** represent the **intercardinal directions**. These help give more specific directions and include northeast, southeast, northwest, and southwest. Let's begin with the cardinal directions on the white squares.

The first direction we will fill out is **north** (abbreviated as N). Remember that north is always up, so write N in the square at the top of your compass rose.

Next is **south** (S). South is always down. Write S in the square at the bottom of your compass rose.

Now let's tackle **west** (W) and **east** (E). West is to the left of north and east is to the right. To remember west and east, think of spelling the word WE. Write a W in the square on the left and an E in the square on the right. (Fun fact: Did you know the sun always rises in the east and sets in the west?)

Ambrose's Top Tip: To remember the order of the cardinal directions, start at the top and, going **clockwise** around the compass, say the silly phrase **Never Eat Soggy Waffles!** The first letter of each word represents the cardinal directions north, east, south, and west.

Now let's fill in the yellow squares with the **intercardinal directions**. These go between the main directions. Northeast (NE) is between north and east. Northwest (NW) is between north and west. Southeast (SE) is between south and east. Southwest (SW) is between south and west.

Once you have your compass filled in, go ahead and cut it out. You'll need it to help me figure out the next two maps!



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