

# Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Text Features

Read the short story and answer each question.



## The United States Map

### North, South, East, West

A compass rose on a map shows the four main directions. North is at the top. South is at the bottom. East is to the right. West is to the left.

### States and Borders

The United States is made up of 50 states. Each state has a border. A border is a line that shows where one state ends and another begins.

### Labels on a Map

Maps use labels to name places. The name of each state is labeled. Some maps also show cities, rivers, or mountains.

### Color-Coding

Many maps use different colors to help show where one state ends and another begins. Colors make it easier to see the borders.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## The United States Map

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1. What does a "label" on a map help you do?

- A. Find a border
- B. Draw mountains
- C. See the name of a place
- D. Color in a state

2. What text feature helps you find out where north is?

- A. A heading
- B. A bold word
- C. A compass rose
- D. A map key

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3. Fill in the blank:

The heading "States and Borders" tells us that each state has a \_\_\_\_\_.

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4. How do headings and labels help you understand how to read a map?

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5. Why is it helpful to have the information organized into short sections?

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# Parent and Teacher Guide

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**Guide Reading Level:** G

**Lexile Level:** 165L-305L

**Grade Level:** 1st Grade, Middle of the Year

**Genre:** Informational Text (Geography)

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## Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read a nonfiction passage about U.S. maps. We'll look closely at the **headings** and **labels** to help us find and understand key information. These are called **text features**, and they are very important in nonfiction books."

**Vocabulary:** map, compass rose, border, label, color-coding

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## Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you know about maps?
  2. Have you seen a map of the United States before?
  3. What kind of tools help you read a map?
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## During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What does a heading tell you?
  2. How do labels on the map help you?
  3. What does a compass rose show?
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## After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How do the text features help you find information more easily?
  2. What is something new you learned from the headings?
  3. Why do you think nonfiction texts use headings and labels?
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## Activity Idea

Give students a blank U.S. map with a simple compass rose and state outlines. Add color-coded borders and 3–4 labels (e.g., California, Texas, New York, Florida). Have students use the headings and map to answer: "Which direction is Texas from New York?" Then they label two new places of their choice.

