Ever imagined a world without maps? What would all those explorers and treasure hunters do without a map?

A World of Maps

Why are maps created?
Who makes them?
Who uses them?

Modern City Maps. Let us have a closer look at the one with pink blocks. This is the map of Pondicherry drafted in 1741, as it looked under French control. It was one of the finest European-planned cities of India at the time.

How do you think people read these complicated maps? They used numbers, dots, symbols etc. which are called KEYS.

There are many important buildings in this map, marked with NUMBERS. Can you find these in the label near the map and match them? We have helped you with one.

Can you make a planned map of your locality when you go home?

Think of all the problems that your locality has, and how those can be fixed. Do we need more parking spaces? Better sewage disposal areas? Why don't you share your map with us at

nationalmuseum.events@gmail.com, and you might see it on our website!

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Photo Courtesy: Internet

Suitable for children from 10 -15 years.

In the ‘Cosmology to Cartography’ exhibition, here at National Museum, we try to answer these questions. You stand in the mysterious WORLD OF MAPS! So wear your explorer hats and let us begin this exciting journey back in time!
STORY TWO: When Krishna was a teenage boy, he loved playing Holi with his cowherd friends and maidens in Vrindavana. Can you find them in the map and draw them here?

HOME WORK
Why don’t you look around the other maps in this section and find other interesting things. Did you find words like “ENGRAVING” and “WOODCUT”? When you go home, find out what these words mean.

THE LOST PRIEST OF PURI
Now let us go to the Temple Maps section and look for a RED map of Jagannath Temple in Puri, Orissa.

In the centre of this map is a room called “SANCTUM SANCTORUM” where the idols are placed.

Here is a task for you.
This is Mr. Purohit, a new recruit as priest of the Jagannatha Temple, who has been given the duty of preparing the idols for morning prayers. But he is a little lost! The Head-Priest forgot to instruct Mr. Purohit about the procedure.

Can you help him to collect all materials needed and reach the Sanctum Sanctorum?

STORY ONE: When Krishna was born in Mathura, he had to be taken to Gokul in secrecy to foster parents. An evil uncle Kamsa was planning to murder him. In Gokul, he grew up and eventually killed king Kamsa.

Can you find Krishna’s father, Vasudeva, carrying the baby on his head crossing the Yamuna in the rain? Draw him here.

STORY TWO: When Krishna was a teenage boy, he loved playing Holi with his cowherd friends and maidens in Vrindavana. Can you find them in the map and draw them here?

People constitute the universe, and inside each person, the universe resides. This is the idea behind the creation of such Lokapurusha images. These maps were made by the Jain community. This Cosmic Map is divided into Heaven, Earth and Hell.

FINDING KRISHNA
Have you ever seen a story telling map? Here in the gallery is a yellow map that tells you a story. Can you find it?

This is the map of VRAJ YATRA – a pilgrimage taken by devout Hindius around the region of Mathura, in Northern India.

Can you find the Blue-God Krishna anywhere?

This map marks many important places and events in the life of Krishna. Can you read about these Krishna stories below and find them on the map?

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