

6 Figure Grid Reference Activity Guide

WHAT ARE GRID REFERENCES?

Grid references are used to locate a particular location on a map. This is important as it is a universal way for people to describe where things are on a map.

- The vertical lines are called eastings- numbers increase to the east.
- The horizontal lines are called northings- numbers increase in a northerly direction.

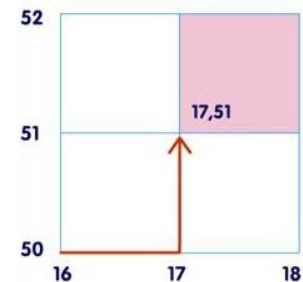
Easting numbers are always given first. Remember that you always have to go: **“along the corridor and up the stairs”**.

HOW TO PINPOINT A LOCATION FROM A 4 FIGURE GRID REFERENCE

- 4-figure grid references can be used to pinpoint a location to within a square.
- Each square has a grid reference which you get by putting together the numbers of the easting and northing that cross in its bottom left-hand corner.

For example: if you were given the 4 figure grid reference: [17,51]

1. You would start at the left-hand side of the map and go east until you get to the bottom-left-hand corner of the square [17] (eastings).
2. You would then move north until you get to the bottom-left corner of the square [51] (northings).



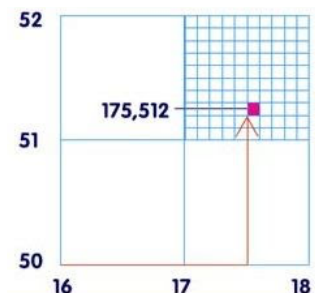
You have then pinpointed your location within a square.

HOW TO PINPOINT A LOCATION FROM A 6 FIGURE GRID REFERENCE

- 6-figure grid references can be used to pinpoint a smaller detail within that square.
- Imagine that the box you found with your 4-figure grid reference has been split into 10 units going east and 10 going north.

For example: if you were given the 6-figure grid reference: [175,512]

1. You would start at the left-hand side of the map and go east until you get to the bottom-left-hand corner of the square [17].
2. You would then go east [5] of your imaginary units.
3. You would then move north until you get to the bottom-left corner of the square [51].
4. You would then go north [2] of your imaginary units.



THE 6 FIGURE GRID REFERENCE ACTIVITY

- Split the group into smaller teams.
- Provide each group with their starting 6-figure grid reference. This should be used to pinpoint the first location (there are 4 different starting points).
- The group should then go to this location. At this location the group should find a plaque with another 6-figure grid reference on to write down.
- The group should then use this 6-figure grid reference to pinpoint the next location.
- The course is complete when the group has gone to all 10 locations and ended up back at the point they started.

REMEMBER

The plaques you are searching for look like this

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