

# THE HISPANIC

## MUSEUM & LIBRARY



### MAPS LESSON PLAN I

#### MAPS AND GLOBES

After listening to the presentation, would you be brave enough to complete these activities?

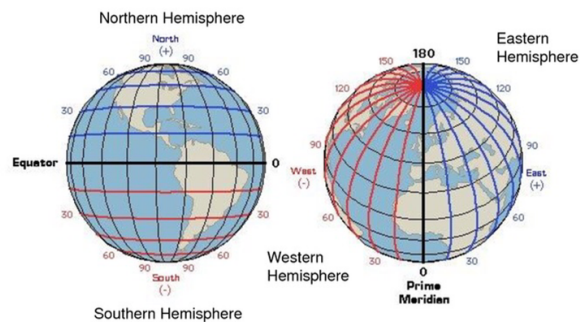
1. Do you remember what makes Portolan charts different from earlier maps?

Draw a compass rose. What were these used for?

2. Do you use Google Maps on your phone? How do you get to school – do you walk, ride your bike, or take the bus? On a separate sheet of paper, draw a map from your house to your school. Include landmarks like familiar stores, street-names, houses, or trees that help you recognize where you are or remind you of where to make a turn, for example.

3. Now imagine trying to follow that same route, from your house to your school, without having any landmarks to guide you! That is what the early voyagers had to deal with on the open sea. Would you be able to get there if you traveled at night, and only had the stars to guide you? When it is nighttime, go outside and look up at the night sky. What constellations do you see? Will the stars help guide your way?
4. Think about the phrase “Knowledge is Power.” What does this mean to you? Think of a time when you knew something that someone else did not. Did this help you succeed or protect you in some way?

5. Now think about this the other way around. Was there a time when someone else was aware of information you did not know? Did they try to keep it a secret from you? Did knowing this information give them an advantage over you? How did this affect you, or make you feel?



6. Think about how globes are different than maps. Considering that the earth is a sphere, which do you think is more accurate? Take an orange and use a black sharpie pen to create an outline of all of the continents. Then try to remove all of the orange's skin in one piece. You can also use a knife if it's easier. When you have done so, place it over a flat surface. Do you see all of the open spaces that are created since the orange peel is no longer in a spherical shape? This shows that because the earth is round and maps are flat, it is difficult to make a map that exactly represents the world. What do you think cartographers would do with the open spaces?

7. In most of Latin America, Spanish is spoken. Do you remember why Portuguese is spoken in Brazil instead of Spanish? What was the Treaty of Tordesillas about? Do you feel that it was fair?
8. Believe it or not, this is a real map! It was made by the inhabitants of Mexico in the year 1584. Think about what was happening in the Americas during this time period. This map is called the Map of Tequeltiche, which means the house of prayer of the devil/god. Look closely at its details. Who is represented in the map? Where is this taking place? What do the triangles and the blue curvy lines represent? Can you follow a story-line by analyzing what the figures are doing? (Look at the additional detail views farther down).





[illegible]

Name all of the different weapons you see. Are there animals too? What do you think this image represents?





Who do you think the building in the middle belonged to? Why is it different than the gray structures on the left? Where did the native people live? Do you think that the Europeans and the indigenous Americans judged each other because of their differences? Have you ever been judged or judged someone else before getting to know them? Did your opinion of them change afterwards?



What are the people doing? Can you think of a reason why the inhabitants of the Americas would take part in this type of activity?

