EXPLORER!

OLD MAPS, NEW MAPS, RED MAPS, BLUE MAPS

Archaeology Map - Modern Map
Do you see the shape of Virginia on this map? This map uses symbols to show us where archaeologists have discovered things from people who used to live in Virginia. Can you find the legend/key anywhere? Why might there be different colored symbols? Do you see Washington, DC? Who lives in Washington, DC?

Explorer Map - Modern Map
I call this the spaghetti map! What colors are on this map? Follow the red noodle from England to Virginia. This map shows us that people came to Virginia from other places. We live in Virginia, but there are other states in the United States of America, just like there are other countries in the world.

John Smith's Map - History Map
This is one of the oldest maps of Virginia. Does this look like Virginia to you? Why or why not? How did he make this map? What are some things you see on this map? Does anyone see the compass rose - which direction is north? John Smith was one of the first explorers from a different country to come to Virginia, so he was showing everyone back in England (remember the red country from the last map?) what Virginia looked like!

Colonial Backcountry Map - History Map
What state do you think this is a map for? Do you see the shape of Virginia? What else do you think this map is showing us? Do you see a legend/key? Have you guys heard of someone named George Washington? Did you know before he was our president, he had a job as a map-maker, using tools like these?
State of Change - Modern Map
Does this look like a map to you guys? Did you know that maps change over time? The United States looks very different today than it did in the past. We have added more states, more cities, and more people. This touch-screen map can show us how the United States looked at different times in history.

City of Richmond Maps - History Maps
Here we have two maps. Let's look at the top map first! Do you see a compass rose pointing north? Do you see the James River? What do you think all these grid lines are? This is actually a map of Richmond! Richmond is the capital of Virginia, and you can see the state capital right here. Now let's look at the bottom map. Is this showing us the same place as the top map? Why or why not? It is! The bottom map is just flipped, so the river is at the top. Let's all look at it upside down.

Streetcar Map - History Map
How did you guys get to this museum today? On a bus! People also take buses to get back and forth to their jobs. Here, we have a map that shows the routes that buses would take to get around Richmond, and where you could get on or off. Let's get inside the streetcar to pretend that we are taking an adventure around Richmond!

BONUS!
Find a map of Virginia in our Landscapes of Virginia gallery. Is this a modern map or history map? Can you find the legend/key? How many colors are on the state of Virginia? Five, because we have five regions. What types of jobs do you think people living by the water might have? Find a picture of a boat in the room.
TEACHER GUIDE: The additional resources and information below can help you and your students explore The Story of Virginia through modern maps and history maps! As you move chronologically through the gallery, have the students point out what they see or don't see on the maps (title, legend/key, compass rose) and think about what these maps are trying to show us.

1. Archaeology Map (located to the right in the Virginia Indian gallery of Story of Virginia): This map shows Virginia Indian archaeological sites from different time periods in Virginia history. I Extension Option: Look at the projectile points, pottery, corn and canoe to see things archaeologists have found!

2. Explorer Map (located to the left in the Virginia Indian gallery of Story of Virginia): This map shows the different European countries that set up colonies in North and South America. I Extension Option: Talk about how early settlers would have gotten here on boats...there are two pictures on either side of the map!

3. John Smith's Map (located under the portraits of Pocahontas): This map, drawn by Captain John Smith, would have been intended to show the natural resources of Virginia (trees and rivers) as well as the fact the Virginia Indians already lived there. The compass rose is tilted, so that North is actually the fleur-de-lis on the right side. It doesn't show all of Virginia, because he hadn't explored the entire thing! I Extension Option: Have the kids tilt their head so they are looking at the map with north at the top!

4. Colonial Backcountry Map (located in the colonial section of Story of Virginia): This Fry-Jefferson Map was the definitive map of what Virginia looked like in the 1700s, from natural features like mountains and rivers, to city names and counties. The survey tools in the case below would have been used to measure land, and are similar to those used by George Washington. | Post-Trip Activity: Have students measure the distance between objects in your classroom!

5. State of Change (located behind the Conestoga Wagon): This map shows how the state of Virginia changed during the 1800s - choose a few years to see how the country's shape changes. You can also talk about the difference between hand drawing a map like George Washington, and making one on a computer. I Extension Option: Talk about the Conestoga Wagon, and how people would have moved across country in the past!

6. Richmond Maps (located on the wall named "The Final Days of the Civil War"): The top, hand-drawn map shows what Richmond looked like during the Civil War, as well as showing the James River, downtown, a simple compass, and clearly labeled symbols. The bottom, a map of Richmond after the Civil War, shows the same area of downtown and the same James River. I Post-Trip Activity: Have student draw their own neighborhood!

7. Streetcar Map (located on the siderail next to the streetcar): The Richmond was the first city in the world to have an electric streetcar system, implemented in 1888. The invention of the streetcar created suburbs outside the city of Richmond. | Extension Activity: Talk about different forms of transportation!

8. Landscapes Gallery (located at the entrance to Story of Virginia): Virginia has 5 regions, which encompass a variety of landscapes, economies, and weather. This is just another example of what different types of maps about Virginia can show us. | Extension Option: Talk about the different jobs represented in this gallery (coal-mining, ship-building, farming) or the different seasons represented in this gallery!
1. Write the letters for North, East, South, West
to make your own compass rose

2. Draw a map of your bedroom on the blank piece of paper. Remember, maps look at things from above, like a bird. What shape would your bed make? Your table? What else do you have in your room?

3. Fill in your key with symbols, so we know how to read your map.

4. Give your map a title: