

Understanding North, East, West, and South Directions

Welcome! Today, we're going to learn about the four main directions on a map: North, East, South, and West. These directions help us understand where things are located in relation to each other.

Step 1: The Compass Rose

Most maps have something called a **compass rose**. This is a symbol that shows the directions. At the top of the compass rose is **North (N)**, and as you move clockwise, you'll find **East (E)** to the right, **South (S)** at the bottom, and **West (W)** to the left.

Step 2: Understanding Each Direction

Let's break down what each direction means:

- **North:** This is the direction that is straight up on most maps. If you think of the North Pole, it's the top of the Earth!
- **East:** If you face North and turn to your right, you will be facing East. This is the direction where the sun rises.
- **South:** If you turn around from North, you will be facing South. This is the opposite direction of North.
- **West:** If you face South and then turn to your left, you will be facing West. This is where the sun sets.

Step 3: Using the Directions

When you're looking at a map, the directions help you find places. For example, if you want to go to a city that is located East of your town, you will need to travel to the right on the map.

Step 4: Remembering the Directions

A good way to remember the order of the directions is to think of the phrase: **Naughty Elephants Squirt Water**. Each initial letter stands for:

- N: North
- E: East
- S: South
- W: West

Step 5: Practicing with a Map

The best way to learn is by practicing! Grab a simple map, find the compass rose, and try to identify where North, East, South, and West are. You can even use a real-world example by looking at a map of your town or a local park!

Conclusion

Now you have a basic understanding of North, East, South, and West! Remember to keep practicing, and soon you'll navigate maps like an expert!