

Landform Map Match

Classroom-ready printable pack · Grades 3–8

Pack contents

Blank maps, landform symbols, challenges, and a reference guide. Two student sets are included.

Teacher directions

1. Orient both maps north-up.
2. The Describer places land and water features.
3. Use relative and cardinal directions.
4. Check that connected features make geographic sense.

Before class

- Print at 100% on US Letter paper. Use cardstock or laminate for reuse.
- Cut on the thick solid borders. Keep Set A and Set B separate.
- Give challenge/model cards only to the Describer.
- Use a folder, book, or tabletop barrier so partners cannot see each other's work.

Accessibility and accommodations

Begin with mountain, river, lake, plain, and island. Use the definition strip.

Storage-envelope labels

Landform Map Match

Set A — Describer

Count pieces before storing.

Landform Map Match

Set B — Builder

Count pieces before storing.

Landform Map Match

Challenge / model cards

Count pieces before storing.

Landform Map Match

Teacher reference

Count pieces before storing.

Student language supports

Position: above · below · beside · between · near · far · left · right · clockwise**Clarify:** “Please repeat...” · “Is ___ beside ___?” · “What should I place next?”**Compare:** same · different · rotate · move · replace · sequence

Movable pieces

Set A

Cut on the solid borders. This set is identical to the partner set.



Movable pieces

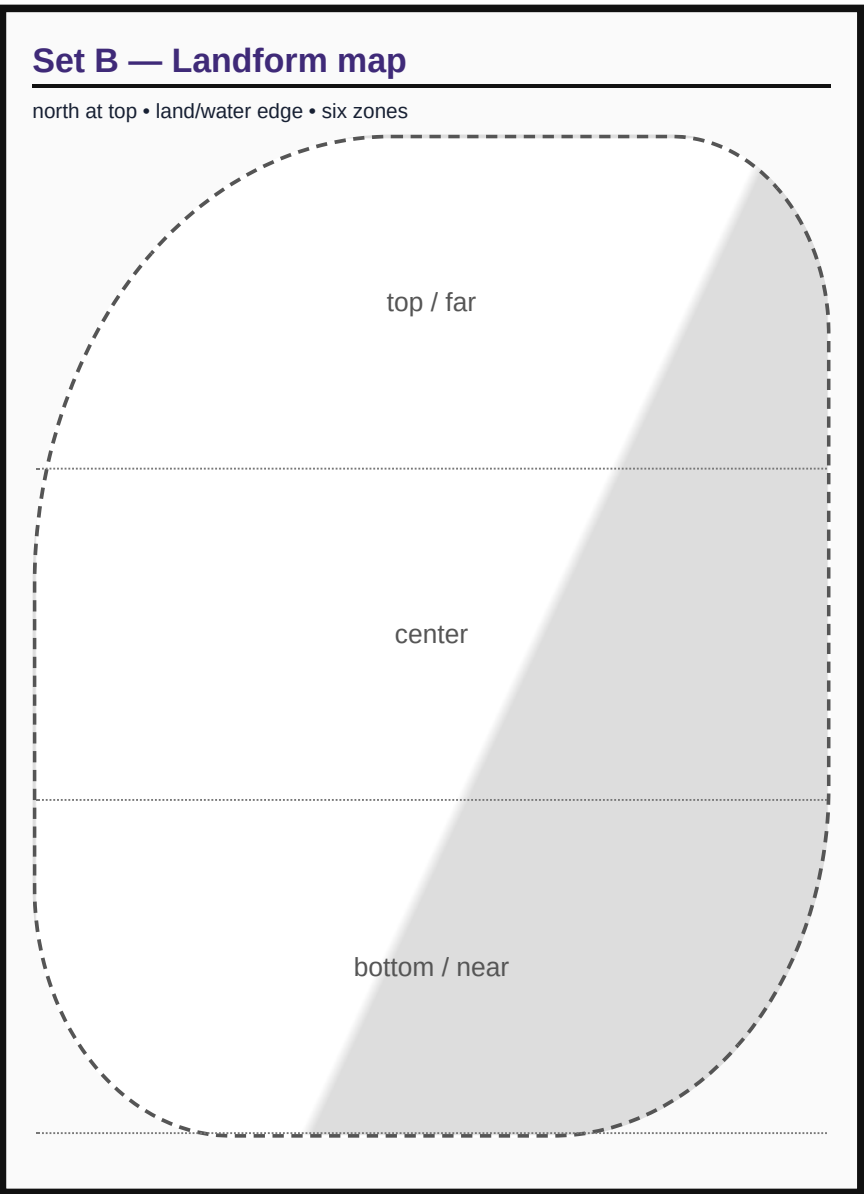
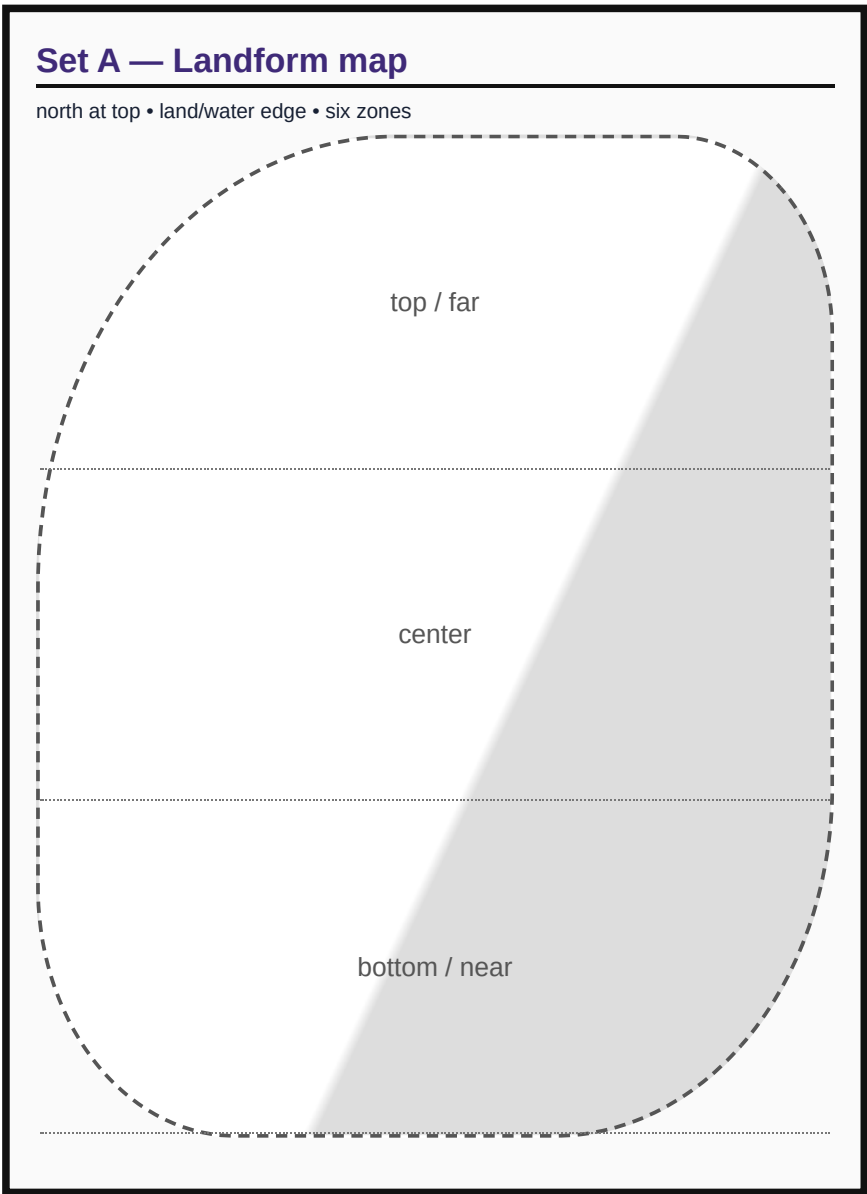
Set B

Cut on the solid borders. This set is identical to the partner set.



Landform map

Cut the page in half. Both partner mats are identical.



Describer-only challenge cards

Keep these cards hidden from the Builder.

Challenge 1: River valley

Mountains north; river through valley to lake.

Challenge 2: Coast

Place peninsula, island, and coastal plain.

Challenge 3: High/low

Plateau west of plain with hills between.

Challenge 4: Original

Use eight plausible features.

Landform Map Match reference

Landform key

Mountain: high, steep land. **Valley:** low area between higher land. **Plain:** broad, relatively flat land. **Plateau:** elevated flat area. **Peninsula:** water on three sides. **Island:** water on all sides. Rivers flow downhill.

Quality check after a round

- Can each student identify pieces by shape or label without relying on color?
- Do both models match in pieces, order, orientation, and relative position?
- Which direction was most precise? Which should be revised?