

## **Maps**

*Beth Wagner*

In this unit, appropriate for grades 2-4, students will learn basic map skills and examining techniques that will be transferable to future mapping experiences. Students will learn basic map terminology and use it when creating mental and actual maps of familiar locations. Students will work independently, in partnerships, and in small groups to compare and contrast maps, their purposes and functions, and their intended audience. They will determine pros and cons of using certain maps. For example, they will compare a map of North America to a map of the United States of America, and they will decide which better serves their purpose, as well as the purpose of others like pilots, sailors, elementary students, etc. The skills that students acquire through read-alouds, classroom discussion, and classwork will assist them in future Social Studies and Reading classes, as they are transferable skills.