



The Geographic
Society of Chicago



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

INFORMATION AND RULES FOR USE

ILLINOIS GIANT STATE TRAVELING MAP PROGRAM

WHAT IS A GIANT TRAVELING MAP?

The Illinois Giant Traveling Map is a 16'X20' map that can come to your school or event. This map was created using the expertise of National Geographic's Cartographic Division and research on elementary spatial thinking, and may be borrowed from the Geographic Society of Chicago.

The map is one solid piece of soft vinyl and must be used indoors on a hard surface. Students may walk in stocking feet across it. No writing utensils or other sharp objects are allowed on the map.

WHY USE THE MAP?

These classroom-size maps were created as a gift to the nation using the expertise of National Geographic's Cartographic Division and research on elementary spatial thinking. The gift is an expression of the commitment that the National Geographic Society has to educating students about the world and empowering them to make a difference. Maps are fun and provide a unique opportunity for audiences to interact with maps and learn about the unique features of their state in an active way.

WHO CAN USE THE MAP?

The maps are available for loan to schools and organizations.

WHAT DOES IT COST TO USE THE GIANT TRAVELING MAP?

There is no charge to borrow the Illinois map. You'll be charged for the cost to ship the map to you and for its return.

WHEN AND HOW CAN I GET THE MAP?

The map is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The Illinois map can be borrowed for up to two weeks. To use the map, you must complete a User Agreement through the Geographic Society of Chicago.

WHAT COMES WITH THE MAP? HOW DO I USE IT?

How you use the map for lessons and activities is entirely up to you. The map is targeted for 3rd and 4th grade students, but can be used for any audience. You can find suggested lesson plans on the GSC web site (www.geographicsociety.org).

In addition to six standard activities that help students learn about their state, the Geographic Society of Chicago continued to develop supplemental lesson, materials, and resources for teachers.

The trunk/tub includes a binder with laminated copies of the activities and all of the materials required. Materials include colored cones, lanyards, and plastic chain links.

To use the map, remember:

- Because of its size, the map will not fit in a classroom. Plan to set it up in a gymnasium, cafeteria, or media center.
- The map must only be used in an indoor location with a flat surface. The area should have no protruding objects that could damage the Giant State Traveling Map.
- Borrowers are responsible for any damage to the map and must replace any materials that are missing upon its return. *Please note: no shoes are allowed on the map. Students/instructors must wear socks.*
- Borrowers are required to complete a short survey after using the map.

WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF CHICAGO?

While some schools or organizations may borrow the map and use it themselves, GSC also offers a number of services for teachers, including:

- **Educator training.** GSC can host an educational session for instructors (in “train-the-trainer” fashion) and other staff who may use the floor map, to make their use more effective when they run their own programs.
- **Floor map programming.** Schools or organizations may also contract with GSC to facilitate a floor map program. A GSC instructor would then bring the floor map to the school/organization and run the program.

In some cases, grant funds may be available to subsidize these services. Contact GSC for information.

HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT US REGARDING THE ILLINOIS GIANT STATE TRAVELING MAP



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