



International Cartographic Association
Commission on Cartography and Children



Barbara Petchenik Children's Map Competition 2027

Teacher Information Guide

Maps in Everyday Life

Every day we use maps—in schools, while travelling, exploring nature or simply finding our way. This competition invites children to express their ideas through creative map-making.

Who Can Participate?

- 1 Children under 16 years.
- 2 Age groups: Under 6, 6-8, 9-12, 13-15.
- 3 Entries may be created by up to three children from the same age group.

Competition Theme

Maps in Everyday Life

Encourage children to think about how maps help us every day, what places matter to them, and how maps can tell stories.



Competition Rules

- 1 Original handmade artwork only.
- 2 Artwork should clearly relate to the theme.
- 3 Include a recognizable map or part of the world.
- 4 No political messages.
- 5 Digital artwork, graphic software, AI-generated images or digital editing are not permitted.



Technical Requirements

- 1 Maximum size A3 (420 × 297 mm).
- 2 Traditional art materials only (colour pencils, crayons, paint, collage, etc.).
- 3 Do not laminate.
- 4 Artwork should be flat.

Deadline

*Deadlines at national level are determined by each country, considering that the deadline for sending the drawings to the international coordinator is **30 April 2027**.*

Information on the Back of the Artwork

Please attach a label including: child's name, age, school, country, and the title of the artwork in English or French.

Guidelines for Teachers

- 1 Encourage originality and creativity.
- 2 Allow children to develop their own ideas.
- 3 Check technical requirements.
- 4 Follow national submission instructions.
- 5 Obtain parental permission for selected entries.



Tips for a Great Entry

Original • Creative • Clear • Meaningful • Map-based • Age-appropriate

More Information

The full Competition Rules are available on the ICA website: <https://icaci.org/petchenik/>

