

## A Glossary of Common NatureMapping Terms

Vocabulary used throughout the NatureMapping curriculum.

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We use the terms listed below throughout the NatureMapping curriculum. Please peruse the list and refer back to it when needed.

### Time and Date Vocabulary

**Analog:** Continuous time. An analog clock tells time by moving hands on a clock face from hours 1 to 12.

**Digital:** Specific time. A digital clock represents finite time (every tenth of a second, for example) via numbers instead of clock hands.

**Military time:** A method of time keeping through a 24-hour clock, in which the day runs from midnight to midnight and is divided into 24 hours.

**Standard time:** A method of time keeping through a 12-hour clock, based on the official local time of a region or country.

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### Species Recognition Vocabulary

**Species:** A class of individuals having common attributes and designated by a common name.

**Morphology:** The form and structure of an organism or any of its parts.

**Binomen:** The scientific name of a species consisting of two parts. The first part is the genus name and the second part is the specific name, e.g., *Canis lupus*.

**Common name:** Name for an animal species that is in general use within a community, e.g., wolf

**Habitat:** Area or environment in which an organism or ecological community normally lives or occurs.

**Nocturnal:** Active at night.

**Diurnal:** Active during the day.

**Migrate:** To pass periodically from one region or climate to another.

**Hibernate:** To spend the winter in close quarters in a dormant condition.

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### Size-Distance Relationship Vocabulary

**Vanishing point:** In perspective drawing, the point at which receding axes converge.

**Perspective:** Any graphic system used to create the illusion of three-dimensional images or spatial relationships on a two-dimensional surface. There are several types of perspective, such as linear, atmospheric, and projection system.

**Horizon line:** The line in a perspective drawing where the sky meets the ground. A drawing inside a room has an eye-level line.

**Grid system:** A series of boxes or circles divided into equal areas.

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### Mapping Vocabulary

**Cardinal directions:** North, south, east, and west.

**Latitude line:** Horizontal line on the globe that shows the angular distance, in degrees, minutes, and seconds, of a point north or south of the equator. Lines of latitude are often referred to as parallels; they run from east to west.

**Longitude line:** Vertical line on the globe that shows the angular distance, in degrees, minutes, and seconds, of a point east or west of the prime meridian. Lines of longitude are often referred to as meridians; they run from north to south.

**The Global Positioning System (GPS):** A system of satellites, computers, and receivers that is able to determine the latitude and longitude of a receiver on earth by calculating the time difference for signals from different satellites to reach the receiver.