

The Battle and Geography of Kennesaw Mountain



Pre-Program Lesson: Map Skills

To say that the physical features of Kennesaw Mountain played a role in the outcome of the Battle of Kennesaw would be an understatement. In the ranger-led portion of this program, students will learn about the topography of Kennesaw Mountain and the impact it had on the course of the Civil War. The teacher-led lesson below prepares students for the ranger-led activity by improving their map literacy. Teachers are encouraged to modify the lesson to better suit their class needs.

Learning Goals

- Students will be able to identify elements of a map.
- Students will be able to identify natural and manmade features on a map.

Basic Elements of a Map

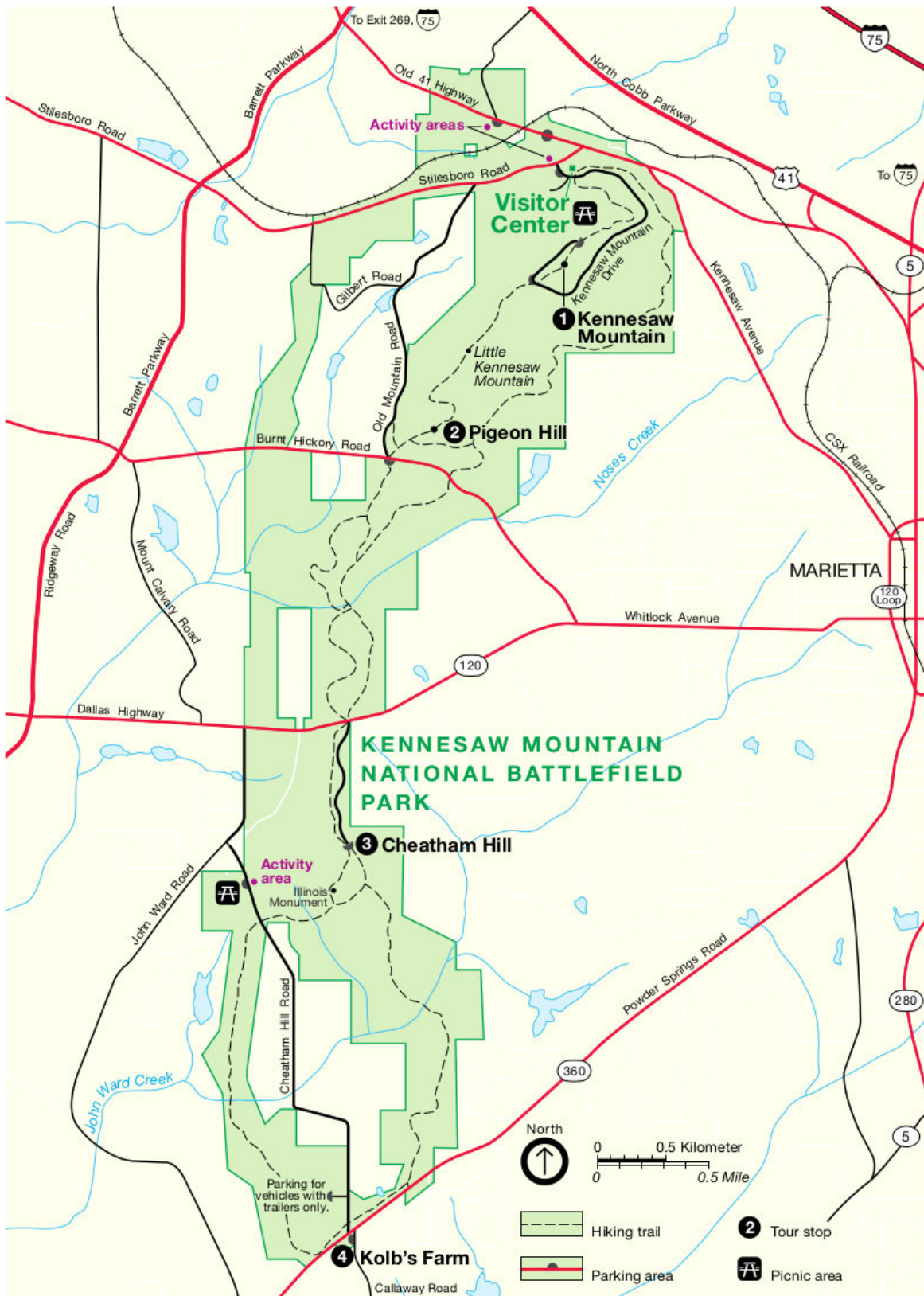
- **Glossary:** a list of features on a map.
- **Legend:** key of map symbols and scale.
- **Orientation:** shows cardinal directions as they would appear on a compass.
- **Scale:** the distance a unit of measurement represents on map.
- **Symbols:** markings that indicate a place's features.
- **Title:** subject of the map.

Materials

- Map of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park (included on page 2)
- Pen or pencil

Lesson

1. Using the included map of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, find and circle the map elements introduced above (map does not include a glossary).
2. Use the map to find points of interest. Discuss whether they are natural or man-made.
 - a. Kennesaw Mountain
 - b. Pigeon Hill
 - c. Cheatham Hill
 - d. Kolb's Farm
 - e. Visitor Center
 - f. Hiking trails
 - g. Roads
 - h. Activity areas
 - i. Bodies of water



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Post-Program Lesson: Map Your Neighborhood

Following the ranger-led program, students should have a grasp on how to read maps and what makes maps historically significant. In this teacher-led activity, students will consider their neighborhood geography and the significance certain sites and features hold, solidifying the key concepts of the program. As with the pre-program lesson, teachers are encouraged to modify the lesson to better suit their class needs.

Learning Goals

- Students will demonstrate their understanding of map elements by creating a map of their own.
- Students will deepen their understanding of what maps can tell you about a place and its history.

Guiding Questions

- What can a map tell you about a place? What about a place's past?
- If two people made the same kind of map of the same area, would they come out exactly the same? Why?
 - If students have difficulty with this question, try comparing different map authors (governor vs. general, farmer vs. geologist, etc.) and different ways to use maps.

Materials

- Pencil
- Coloring pencils
- Drawing paper
- Ruler

Lesson

1. Have students create a map of their neighborhood incorporating the following elements:
 - a. Glossary
 - b. Legend
 - c. Orientation
 - d. Scale (have students estimate distance or use Google Maps and calculate a scale based on that distance)
 - e. Symbols
 - f. Title
2. Have students answer the following questions on the back of their map:
 - a. Why did you choose to highlight the features on your map? What makes them important?
 - b. Is there anything you would add if you knew scientists would study your map in the future?

RESOURCES



Non-Fiction

- *The Civil War: 1860-1865* by Christopher Collier and James Lincoln Collier.
- *Civil War A to Z* by Norman Bolotin.
- *Civil War Battles and Leaders DK series*, edited by Aaron Murray.
- *The Civil War For Kids* by Janis Herbert.
- *Fields of Fury: The American Civil War* by James McPherson.
- *Pink and Say* by Patricia Polacco.

Fiction

- *Across the Lines* by Carolyn Reeder.
- *Before the Creeks Ran Red* by Carolyn Reeder.
- *Hear the Wind Blow* by Mary Dinning Hahn.
- *Flying Free* by Sharon Dennis Wyeth.
- *Freedom's Wings*, by Sharon Dennis Wyeth.
- *My America Series* by Mary Pope Osborne.
- *The Storm Before Atlanta* by Karen Schwabach.
- *The War Within* by Carol Matas.