Enter the exciting world of map-making!

Cartography is an exciting and creative way to learn about a place. Using reference information, you'll create a foam-and-plaster state, province, country, or other landform model complete with mountains, hills, lakes, rivers, and other details unique to your location. Roll up your sleeves and get ready for some cartography fun!

Be sure to read all the directions before getting started. Allow at least 3 days to complete this project so that it has time to dry. Don't wait to start the night before it's due!

Materials Included
• 12" x 12" foam board
• Magic Plaster Gauze
• paint
• paint brush

WARNING!
FOR USE BY CHILDREN OVER 5 YEARS OLD.
ONLY FOR USE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF AN ADULT.

CAUTION!
READ THE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USE. FOLLOW THEM AND KEEP FOR REFERENCE.
DO NOT INHALE OR SWALLOW POWDER ON MAGIC PLASTER GAUZE.

Advice for Supervising Adults

• Read and follow these instructions, the safety rules, and the first aid information. Keep these instructions for reference.
• The incorrect use of chemicals can cause injury. Only carry out those activities which are listed in the instructions.
• This chemical toy is for use only by children over the age of 5 years.
• Because children’s abilities vary so much even within age groups, supervising adults should exercise discretion as to which activities are suitable and safe for them. Supervising adults should assess any activity in order to establish its suitability for a particular child.
• The supervising adult should discuss the warnings and safety information with the child or children before beginning the activities. Particular attention should be paid to the safe handling of acids, alkalis, and flammable liquids.
• The area surrounding the activity should be kept clear of any obstructions and away from the storage of food. The area should be well lit, ventilated, and close to a water supply. A solid table with a heat-resistant top should be provided.

Safety Rules

• Read these instructions before use. Follow them and keep them for reference.
• Keep young children and animals away from the activity area.
• Store chemical toys out of reach of young children.
• Clean all equipment after use.
• Wash hands after carrying out activities.
• Do not use any equipment which has not been supplied with the set or recommended in the instructions for this use.
• Do not eat, drink, or smoke in the activity area.
• Do not allow chemicals to come into contact with the eyes or mouth.

Chemicals included: There is gypsum in the Magic Plaster Gauze. The chemical name for gypsum is Calcium sulfate hemihydrate.

General First Aid Information

• In case of eye contact: wash out eye with plenty of water, holding eye open if necessary. If burning, redness, itching, pain or other symptoms persist or develop, consult a physician.
• If swallowed, rinse out mouth with water. Drink some fresh water. Seek immediate medical advice.
• The powder in the Magic Plaster Gauze may cause drying of the skin. In case of skin contact resulting in irritation or burns, wash affected area with plenty of water for 5 minutes.
• In case of doubt, seek immediate medical advice. Take the chemical, together with the container and this information, with you.
• In case of injury, always seek medical advice.

Materials Needed

- paper map of your state (maximum of 12 inches long or wide); for maps and reference materials look online or in the library or consult an atlas or globe.
- physical, relief, or topographic map of your state or landform
- reference materials about the location
- newspaper
- aluminum foil
- bowl of water
- scissors
- dull (butter) knife
- marker
- tape

Optional:
• plastic (to protect workspace)
• ruler
• toothpick

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Cutting Out Your Foam Board

Getting Ready
Spend some time studying the location or landform that you are going to create. What are its physical features? Does it have mountains, lakes, rivers, and/or a coastline? Are there major cities and/or a capital? Find out what makes the location unique. You can't show absolutely everything so think about which features you would like to highlight.

Materials Needed
- paper map of your state or landform
- scissors
- marker
- 12" x 12" foam board
- dull (butter) knife

Time Required: 30-60 minutes

1. Cut out the paper map with scissors. This is your template.

2. Use a dull knife to cut along marker line.

3. Set the template on the foam board and trace around it with a marker.

4. Lay out some newspaper and/or plastic on the table to protect your workspace. Place a medium-sized bowl of water on the table.

5. Lay the strip on your foam board map. Smooth it out with your fingers.

6. At the map edges, wrap the Magic Plaster Gauze around the sides and tuck it under the map.

7. You can build additional mountains after you've started placing the Magic Plaster Gauze. Place multiple layers of Magic Plaster Gauze in one spot to build up a thicker map. Thicker maps will take longer to dry. See Figure 1.

8. Let your map dry overnight. It will dry fastest outside in direct sunlight. If drying indoors, allow 24 hours to dry. Put the map in a place where it won't be disturbed, such as on top of a refrigerator.

9. Repeat steps 4-5 until you have covered the entire map. You can apply multiple layers of Magic Plaster Gauze to build up a thicker map. Thicker maps will take longer to dry.

Optional:
- toothpick
- newspaper and/or plastic
- tape

Applying the Magic Plaster Gauze Continued...

Dip a strip of Magic Plaster Gauze into the water. Rub it between your thumb and fingers to break down the powder and create a paste-like substance. This will create a smoother effect. Run your fingers down the strip, gently squeezing any excess water back into the bowl.

Lay the strip on your foam board map. Smooth it out with your fingers.

At the map edges, wrap the Magic Plaster Gauze around the sides and tuck it under the map.

You can build additional mountains after you've started placing the Magic Plaster Gauze. Place multiple layers of Magic Plaster Gauze in one spot to build up a thicker map. Thicker maps will take longer to dry. See Figure 1.

Materials Needed
- your dry map
- physical, relief, or topographic map of your state or landform
- reference materials about the location
- paint
- paint brush
- bowl of water

Time Required: 1 day

Painting Your Landform

When completely dry, use the paints and paintbrush to paint in color and details. Lay out some newspaper and/or plastic on the table to protect your workspace. Put a medium-sized bowl of water on the table for cleaning your brushes.

Study your physical map and reference materials to determine which colors to use for details. Blue is a good choice for lakes, rivers, and the ocean. Use the thin edge of the brush for making thin rivers and painting small details. Use the broad side to paint larger areas of color.

Materials Needed
- your dry map
- physical, relief, or topographic map of your state or landform
- reference materials about the location
- paint
- paint brush
- bowl of water

Optional:
- toothpick
- newspaper and/or plastic
- tape

Time Required: 1 day

You can create a flag by taping a piece of paper to a toothpick. Push the toothpick through both the gauze and foam layers until the toothpick stands upright by itself. You may wish to decorate your map with other materials such as clay, cotton balls, paper-mâché, figurines, etc.

Allow the painted map to dry overnight.

Materials Needed
- newspaper and/or plastic
- bowl of water
- physical, relief, or topographic map of your state or landform
- reference materials about the location
- paint
- paint brush
- bowl of water

Time Required: 1 day

Applying the Magic Plaster Gauze Continued...