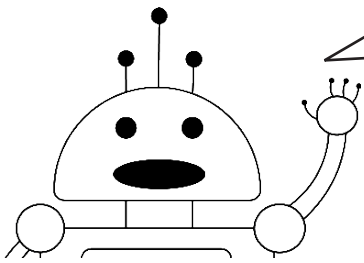


How do you use a compass?

This activity was created by Amelia.

Compasses were first used by sailors to navigate the open seas, and by people who travelled across large areas of land. They are used to find out which direction you are travelling. A compass works because of magnets. The Earth's surface is one gigantic magnet. The magnet in the compass is attracted to the North Pole, the beginning of the magnetic field. This is called opposite polarity and explains why a compass will always show which way is North.



Looks like we need to do some math to figure out how to colour in this compass. Ask for help or use a calculator (a mini computer) to decode which colour to use.

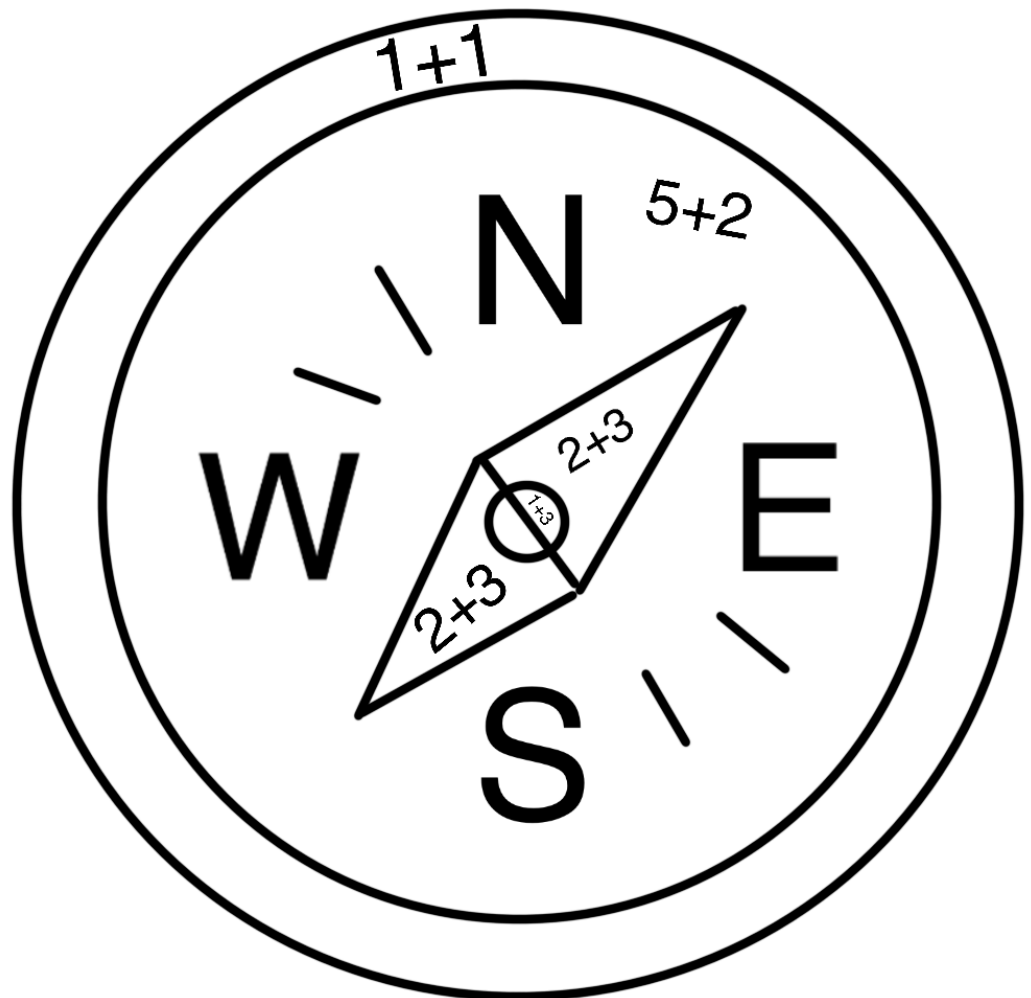
Legend:

2 = Blue

4 = Black

5 = Yellow

7 = Grey



Fun Fact: There are magnetic rocks in the ground that confuse the compass and make the needle spin around. Stories of people getting lost in a forest is caused by this. If you can see where the Sun rises and sets, you can identify where East and West are to find your way.