MAPPING ACTIVITIES

Children's Activities
Capture your children's imagination and encourage exploration with mapping activities around your local area. Examples include:

Map your home: in which children compile a map of a selected theme, such as vegetation, points of interest, or traffic, in their city or village.

Map your family: in which children compile their own family map with grandparents, siblings, uncles, cousins, and others.

You can also participate in local geocaching or orienteering activities for practical experience in reading maps and understanding spatial information.

Other Types of Activities
The possibilities are endless, including:

- Exhibitions of recent national maps from the national mapping organisations;
- Demonstrations of map production and of the use of maps;
- Local mapping programs for planning and maintenance of infrastructure;
- Demonstration of the use of maps by people involved in safety and security, like police and firemen.
- Exhibitions of historical maps
- Short lecture programs about the use of maps and geospatial information;
- Demonstrations of GPS, orienteering, and geocaching;

SHARE WITH OTHERS
Share your activities and ideas on the MSIA and IMY websites. A special page is dedicated to announcing national participation. Your ideas will be added to web site to help inspire and inform others.

CONTACT US
For more information contact MSIA at: internationalmapyear@ mappingsciences.org.au
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE MAP

"International Map Year (IMY) is a worldwide celebration of maps and their unique role in our world. IMY provides opportunities to demonstrate, follow, and get involved in the art, science and technology of making and using maps and geographic information."

The International Map Year is an initiative of the International Cartographic Association (ICA) and supported by the United Nations committee Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).

The International Map Year is for everyone:
- The general public
- School children
- Teachers
- Professionals and
- Government agencies and organizations.

The goal of IMY is to celebrate maps in our lives, their place in society, their role in history, and their importance to our future. This celebration will begin in 2015 and end in December 2016. Countries around the world are beginning to plan their activities. Your contribution, through activities to raise awareness and participate, is key to the success of IMY.

GET INVOLVED

The Mapping Science Institute Australia (MSIA) is the national leader of the International Map Year in Australia. It will be responsible for setting up the IMY organising committee bringing together representatives from national mapping authorities, state and local governments, professional institutions, commercial entities and educational organisations who will be tasked with coordinating and promoting events at the local and national levels.

The MSIA would love to hear from anyone interested in hosting or becoming a partner in an International Map Year activity.

Suggestions for events, such as organising special map exhibitions, competitions, organising activities for children and presenting short lecture programs, are detailed on the MSIA website

GET STARTED

A great place to start is to organize participation in the Barbara Petchenik Map Competition, aimed at promoting children's creative representation of the world in graphic form. Guidelines for the 2015 competition can be found at:


Professional are encouraged to present their maps in the International Cartographic Associations Map Exhibition.

For more information see:


NATIONAL MAP DAY

One special event that everyone can participate in, is National Map Day. Maps can be featured at local agencies, universities, schools, museums, map archives, and mapping companies. Here, maps can be celebrated for their utility and importance.

Local agencies can demonstrate the use of maps for planning new areas of development, such as a proposed industrial area or where a school might be built.

Local governments could organise demonstrations that might feature how public utilities like water works, waste disposal, or public transport, have been organised or how emergency personal manage hazardous events with the help of maps and geographical information systems.

Current and historical maps from public and private map collections might be put on display.

National map days are just one example of an opportunity for the public to learn more about maps and cartography.