



## Map scaling



Every map also has a scale. Look at the examples of maps. Can you find the scale?

There is an easy and reliable way to work out the scale of the map of your school.

On your map, find a feature in the school grounds that will be easy to measure, the length of a building, for example.

Go outside with your partner and measure the length of that object with a tape measure. Make a note of the length. Go inside and find that feature on your map. Measure the feature with a ruler.

Imagine the building was 4.0 metres wide and on the map it was 2.4 centimetres wide. To make the scale bar on your map, draw a rectangle the exact length as you measured with your ruler. The height of the rectangle doesn't matter. So in our example, we would draw a rectangle exactly 2.4 cm wide and maybe about half a centimetre high. Above the rectangle, label the bar by writing the length of the feature in "real life" - the length you measured with a tape measure outside in the school grounds. For our example, it was 4.0 metres. So every time something measures 2.4 cm on the map, it should measure 4.0 m in real life.