

## Large and Small Scale Maps

Maps are accurate drawings of different areas of the world. Different types of maps give us different information about the area shown on the map. The scale of a map helps the reader calculate the real size and distances between places or things shown on the map.

We say that maps can either have a small scale or large scale. What does that mean and why do they use two different scales?

In reality, the Earth is so large that if we wanted to show it on a map we would have to make the world smaller to fit it on to a map. We do this using a small scale map. Using a small scale allows us to take something really big and shrink it down when drawing it on a map. A small scale map shows something big, but with very little detail.


Take a look at this world map. It is a small scale map. It shows the entire world, but with only a few of the details. You can't see details like rivers, cities, hospitals and roads.


Are these large scale or small scale maps?


## Large and Small Scale Maps Answers



Large $\boxtimes$ Small $\square$


Large $\square$ Small $\square$



