

CATEGORY: CUBA & THE CARIBBEAN: NOW

CONCEPTS: GEOGRAPHY

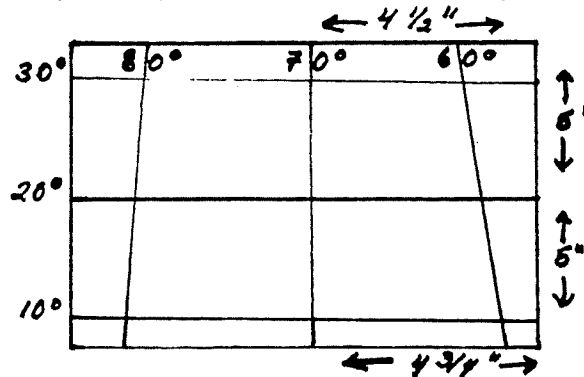
ACTIVITY: GRID MAPS. Students are usually given more opportunities to label maps than to construct them, yet there is nothing like drawing a map to focus the attention on geographical details. The West Indies differ enough in shape and size to be a challenge, and their size is helpful in one way--students can use lines of latitude and longitude to help them draw the islands.

VOCABULARY: parallels of latitude, meridian of longitude

OBJECTIVES: The student will be able to draw a freehand map, using lines of latitude and longitude.

MATERIALS: white construction paper (12" x 18"), rulers

PROCEDURE: Have students divide a piece of white construction paper into grids corresponding to latitude and longitude around the West Indies:



Notice that the parallels flare 1/2" wider at the bottom of the paper.

Using these grid lines to rough out the general shape and location of the islands, students can then check the map for accuracy before refining the shapes of the islands, labeling them, and marking in other details.

**LEVEL: MIDDLE GRADES**

Source: Gibbs, Virginia G. *Latin America: Curriculum Materials for the Middle Grades*. Center for Latin America, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. 1985. | 1989.

RELATED ACTIVITY: If students are interested in the Bermuda Triangle, they can use their maps to mark these 13 locations, each given by a ship or plane before it disappeared:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>People Lost</u>	<u>Coordinates</u>
1918	<u>Cyclops</u> (freighter)	309	23°N, 65°W
1931	<u>Stavenger</u> (freighter)	43	23°N, 77°W
1945	5 Navy fighter-bombers & 1 Navy seaplane sent to rescue them	14	27°N, 78°W
1948	DC-3 airliner	35	30°N, 80°W
1949	<u>Star Ariel</u> (British airliner)	18	30°N, 67°W
1954	Navy super constellation airplane	42	35°N, 65°W
1956	Navy seaplane	10	32°N, 67°W
1962	Air Force Tanker Plane	9	34°N, 72°W
1963	<u>S.S. Marine Sulphur Queen</u>	39	24°N, 82°W
1965	Air Force C-119 "Flying Boxcar"	10	23°N, 78°W
1967	<u>Witchcraft</u> (cabin cruiser)	3	26°N, 80°W
1969	<u>Brendan The Bold</u> (20-foot ship)	1	22°N, 62°W
1973	<u>Milton Latrides</u> (freighter)	35	24°N, 67°W