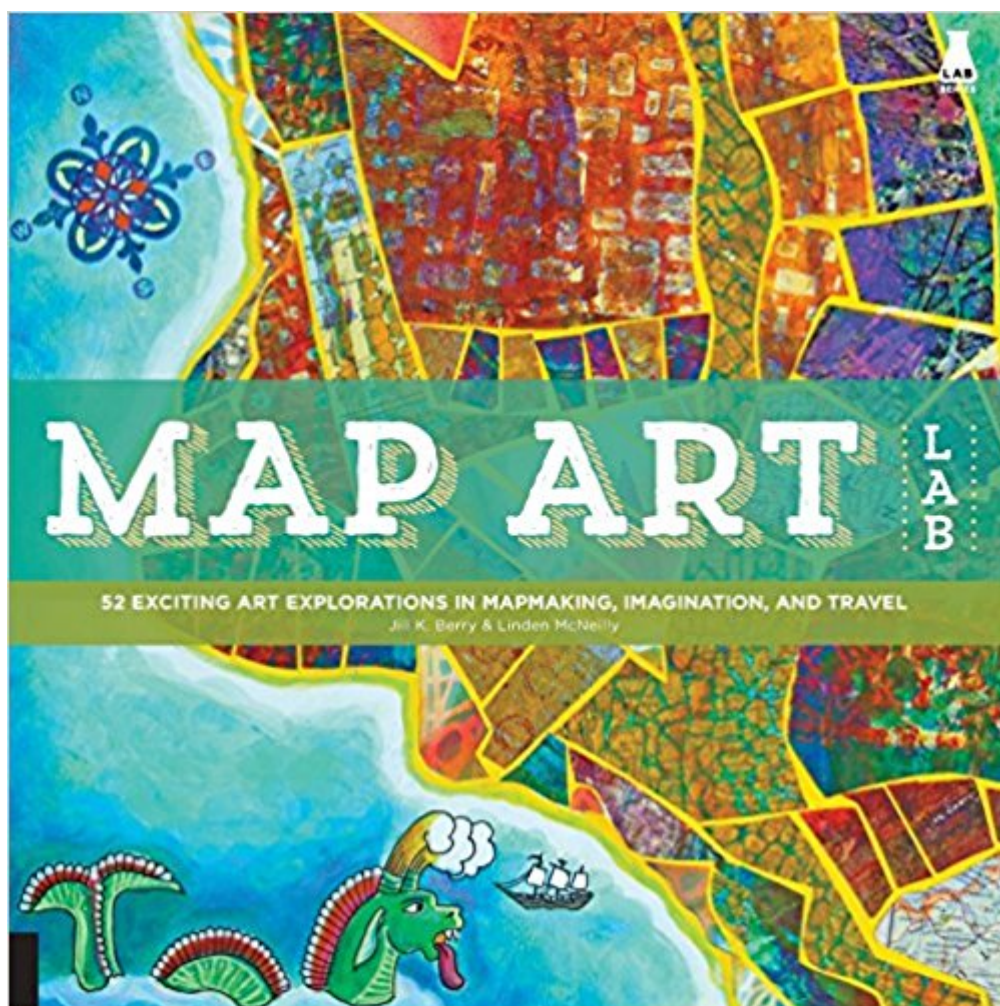


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# Map Art Lab: 52 Exciting Art Explorations In Mapmaking, Imagination, And Travel (Lab Series)



## Synopsis

Travel through the exciting world of cartography with Map Art Lab. This fun and creative book features 52 map-related activities set into weekly exercises, beginning with legends and lines, moving through types and styles, and then creating personalized maps that allow you to journey to new worlds. Authors Jill K. Berry and Linden McNeilly guide readers through useful concepts while exploring colorful, eye-catching graphics. The labs can be used as singular projects or to build up to a year of hands-on creative experiences. Map Art Lab is the perfect book for map lovers, creative/DIY-inspired, designers. Artists of all ages and experience levels can use this book to explore enjoyable and engaging exercises. Everyone loves maps. And what's not to love? They are beautiful and fascinating, they teach you things, they show you where you are, places you long to go, and places you dare to imagine.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 70 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #82,939 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in [Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Cartography](#) #20 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Visual Arts > Drawing](#) #53 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Mixed Media](#)

## Customer Reviews

"Creative cartographers, here's a way to keep yourself mapping for months. Make a topographic map of your nose. Use string to weave your latitude and longitude. Orient yourself with your own compass rose. What better way to find yourself? Every art teacher should have a copy of this book."

- Katharine Harmon, Author, *You Are Here: Personal Geographies and Other Maps of the Imagination* and *The Map as Art: Contemporary Artists Explore Cartography*"Learn about cartography, topography, legends, compasses, and more in this adventurous DIY map book. Create the map for your mythical universe, or learn the nuts and bolts of cartography. Broken into weekly

exercises, this book is perfect for creating personalized maps and exploring a new creative outlet. In the Map Basics chapter, learn about lines, legends, cartouches, creating sea monsters, and more. Discover fun and unique ways to create maps that are transparent, stenciled, flat, mixed media, and more. Finish charting your map adventure with exercises for creating artist maps and map-inspired art." - Paige Martin, Cloth Paper Scissors Magazine

"Go on an artistic journey and discover endless ways to share your travel adventures from this book by Jill K Berry and Linden McNeilly. The authors demonstrate how maps and your imagination can create intriguing masterpieces that tell unique stories. Each of the 52 projects, or labs, comes with detailed instructions, along with a materials list and illustrations. From scaling your bedroom to creating a board game, there is a project in this book to inspire anyone at any age. Another great feature to this book is the Guest Mapper section, in which an artist shares their inspirations and tips from their collections. Get lost in this book and drift away to a land of storytelling, mapmaking, and creativity!" - Kristen Cervantes, Somerset Studio Magazine

Jill K. Berry is an author, teacher, and artist living in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Her first book, *Personal Geographies: Explorations of Mixed-Media Mapmaking*, was published in 2011. She thought it would be fun to invite her sister Linden to explore the second book together, and the two developed *Map Art Lab*. Jill returned to books with *Making Art from Maps*. She makes artists' books, paintings, maps, and other storytelling structures, and her work has been published in many books and magazines. She teaches her techniques worldwide.

Jill K. Berry, author of *Personal Geographies: Explorations in Mixed-Media*, teaching scheduled for Art & Soul Portland, Valley Ridge Art Studio, San Diego Book Arts, Tucson Paperworks, Petaluma and Eureka Art Centers, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Virginia Beach and Taos.

Jill's first book with NorthLight has sold over 10K copies in the first year.

Linden McNeilly (Jill's sister) Public school teacher 25 years, designing curriculum for children and adults in math, science, geography, reading, writing and art. MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts, BA in UC Santa Cruz. Works in progress: three young adult novels.

This is a beautiful book that we chose to review on Readerkidz, our blog for teachers, librarians and parents of kids K-5. The book's audience is much broader, though. *Map Art* is filled with wonderful art projects for ALL ages that involve maps, armchair exploration and the imagination. Each project has simple but detailed instructions, and they range from quick and easy to elaborate. Favorites include telling a story by map; using Google Earth to portrait where you live; quilted maps; making

your own board game; word, treasure, and pop-up maps. It's ideal for art and social studies teachers, groups of any kind, and any one who loves creative, well-designed, hands-on projects.

Map Art Lab is a fun art activity book for those interested in art and cartography. The 52 projects included involve mixed media, and uses all the different elements of the map to create art. You'll get to draw sea monsters like olden day maps, create all sorts of interesting looking roads, make a pop-up map, a tea-stained treasure map, satellite map of your house and many more. In many cases, you're not making an actually usable map, but a piece of art that's inspired by maps. Some of the projects would require you to collect glass tiles or stones to make a mosaic map, or have a camera or sketchbook in hand and look out for map-like creations from nature, many projects involve drawings, some collages, and other interesting ways to create art. There's a good variety of art inspired projects. It's a very hands-on book, recommended to art and craft lovers. (See more pictures of the book on my blog. Just visit my [profile](#) for the link.)

This book just wasn't what I was looking for. It has strengths, but it just didn't work well for me personally. Despite the subtitle, this is not a book about "mapmaking." In the place of making maps, the authors present a series of suggestions that either have the appearance of maps or are actually hand-drawn infographics. To be sure, these projects are very artistic and authentic. The instructions are less ordered lists with illustrations than they are recommendations. For example, project 18, "Story Maps" has seven steps that include, "outline your sketch in pen," "paint in your drawing," and "label the known areas." It is accompanied by four illustrations from four separate stories. The part of the subtitle that I think I was missing was "art explorations." I love maps and I love making art, but this book just didn't fit the bill for helping me make realistic maps. It does, however, have plenty of very poetic and artistic ideas for somebody looking for a nice project on a rainy, something to do with a group, or someone looking for a bit of artistic meditation.

This book is just what I thought it would be! Lots of great ideas, directions, examples and suggestions! If you like to make your own maps, especially as a form of journaling, you really, really might want this book!

If you are looking for lessons for your art class to incorporate Common Core this book is great. I have been teaching middle school art for the past 18 years. This book is chalk full of lessons dealing any and all kind of information on "mapping lessons". I believe if you are an experienced

teacher it would be easy to "tweak" the lessons for different grade levels. I am in California and we do not have any set standards for Common Core in the Arts. I believe this book is a great way to incorporate cross curricular lessons from English, Math and History into your art program.

I loved this book so much I bought both the hard copy and the Kindle version since I like to work on some projects when I travel. It has fantastic information and inventive projects for all ages and experience levels. I like that it takes map making into other areas than only traditional forms of maps. The only thing I wish is that it had the page numbers that equate to the hard copy book. Much easier to work with than "Location" numbers that don't correspond to page numbers.

Another great book using maps. Very creative and full of information. The illustrations and material suggestions with well organized steps is a plus. Lights up your own creative ideas. Use in the classroom, for your family roots, furniture décor and decoration, jewelry, tiles, fabric and pillow cover design, mixed media and of course; serious art works. Map Art Lab is a great book to pair with Personal Geographies and Intentional Printing. This book can lend itself from a fourth grader to a senior citizen. A good addition to your bookshelf.

Having some of her previous work, I knew Jill Berry's new book would be of amazing quality but this really did exceed my expectations. Jill and Linden have a capacity to make maps fascinating on a range of levels - from the inner geography nerds to those who see map making as a reflection of their inner selves and journeys. This is a craft based art book that will guide adults and kids alike towards map making in ways not previously imagined. I highly recommend it - art teachers would find this a great classroom resource too.

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