



# Exploring Bytown by Map

Image: "City of Ottawa, Canada West", lithographic print, Bytown Museum, P4100

This program will allow students to explore various maps from the Bytown Museum's collection. Through discussion and the examination of historical maps, students will learn about their basic features. Students will then create their own maps, and will discuss how communities can be represented in different ways.

**Program Duration:** 45-60 minutes

**Grade Level (Ontario):** Grades 1-3, Social Studies

# Curriculum Connections (Ontario)

## Grade 1 | Social Studies

During this program, students will:

- B2.3 analyse maps, and construct simple maps using appropriate elements, as part of their investigations into the interrelationship between people and significant natural and built features in their community
- B3.1 identify some of the natural and built features of their community
- B3.3 describe the location of some significant places in their community, using relative location, relative distance, and relative direction
- B3.4 demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements of a map when reading and constructing simple maps showing places that are significant to them
- B3.6 demonstrate the ability to construct simple maps of places they have visited, using symbols and non-standard units

## Grade 2 | Social Studies

During this program, students will:

- B2.3 analyse and construct simple maps to determine and illustrate patterns in the interrelationship between the location of some communities and human activities in those communities
- B3.3 identify cardinal directions on a map (i.e., N, S, E, W), and use these directions when locating selected communities, countries, and/or continents

## Grade 3 | Social Studies

During this program, students will:

- B2.3 analyse and construct print and digital maps, including thematic maps, as part of their investigations into the environmental impact of land and/or resource use in different municipal regions
- B3.7 construct print and/or digital maps that show some different land uses, landform regions, and/or municipalities in Ontario, using appropriate elements of a map, including standard units of measurement



Image: W. Chesterton, "Ottawa Locks at Entrance Bay"  
1895, oil on canvas, Bytown Museum, P330

# Exploring Bytown by Map

## Teacher Guide

This lesson can be delivered either in-person or virtually, and consists of a discussion component followed by an independent work component. Pages from this document can be either printed or projected for students in person, or shared remotely in distance learning settings.

### Materials Required (Students)

- Paper
- Pencils, markers, or crayons
- Ruler (optional)

### Suggested Lesson Breakdown

- Introduction & initial discussion: 10 minutes
- Independent work: 30 minutes
- Discussion & conclusion: 5-10 minutes

Do you have exceptional student work from this program that you want to share? Feel free to share it with us on social media!

- Facebook: [Musée Bytown Museum](#)
- Instagram: [@bytownmuseum](#)
- Twitter: [@BytownMuseum](#)





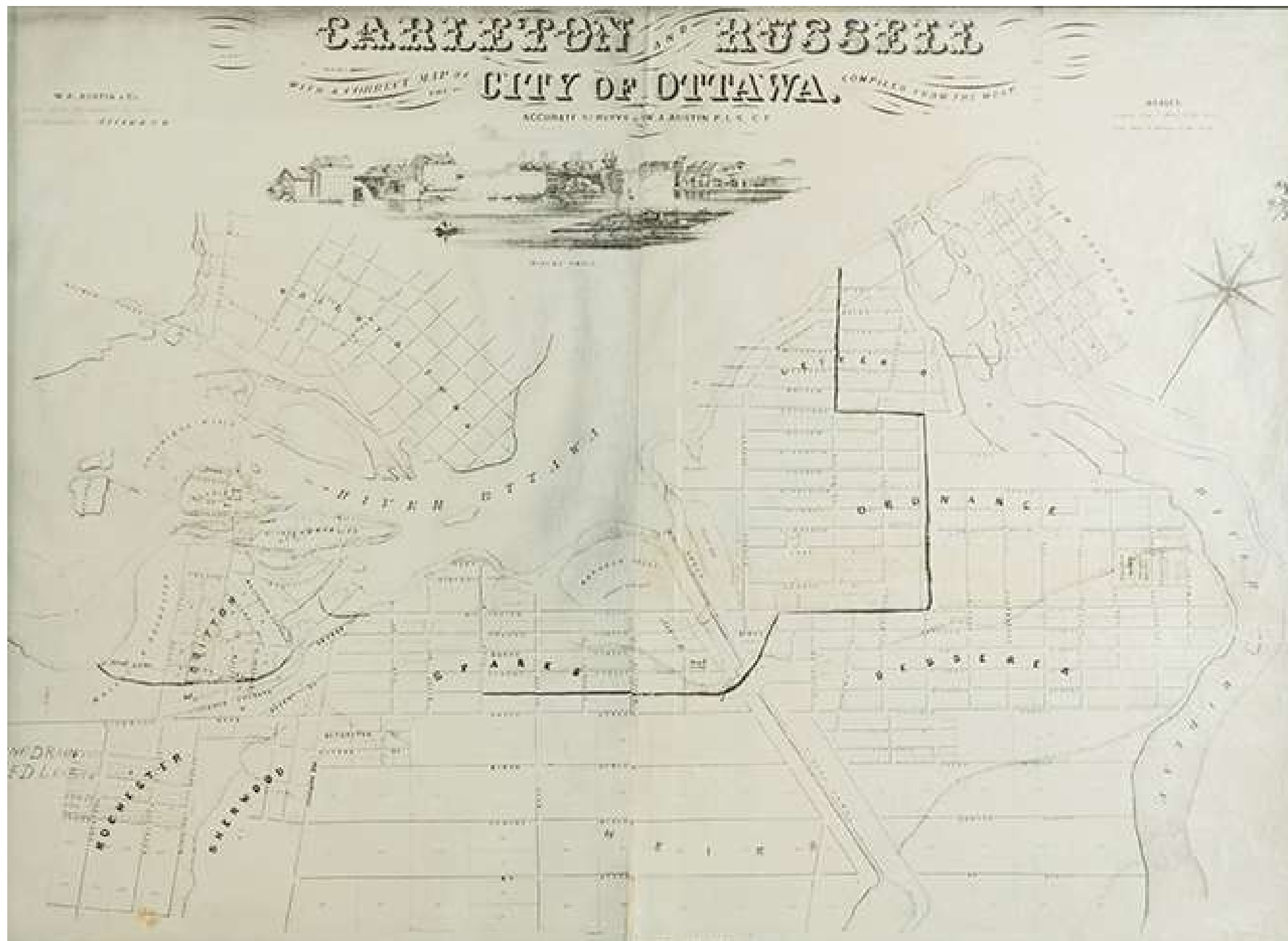


Image: "Carleton and Russell, City of Ottawa", ink on paper, Bytown Museum, D134

## Part A: Discussing the Map

On the previous page is a street map of Carleton and Russell. The map was created from the most accurate surveys by W.A. Austin P.L.S. C.F. At the top of the map is a drawing of the Rideau Falls.

### Discussion Prompts

How do we know what the map is called?

- *It says "Carleton and Russell" at the top.*
- This is called the **title** of the map. The title tells us what place the map represents, just like the title of a book tells us what the book is called.

How do we know which way the map is pointing?

- *The cardinal directions are listed on the right-hand side.*
- This is called the **compass** of the map. The compass shows us which way the map is pointing, like an arrow.
- **For Grade 2+:** What are the 4 cardinal directions? Where are they on the map?

How do we know what places on the map are called?

- The rivers and neighborhoods are **labelled** with their names on the map to help people identify them. For example, the neighborhoods of *Sherwood* and *Rochester* are labelled in bold.

What does the map show?

- Can you find a river? (Hint: There is more than one river.)
- Can you find roads? (Hint: Roads are like lines.)
- Where do people live on this map? (Hint: People live where there are roads. These are **neighborhoods**.)

What kinds of things would we find in a city like this one?

- What kinds of places do you go every day? (i.e., school, home, grocery store, park, etc.)
- What are important places that people need in their lives? (e.g., fire station, hospital, etc.)
- What are some natural features of the city? (e.g., forests, rivers, fields, hills, trees, etc.)

### Comparison & Contrast

On the next page is another map of the Ottawa area. This map shows a bird's eye view of Ottawa looking south from Hull and the Ottawa River to Isabella St. and the Rideau River beyond. Have students compare this map to the previous map.

- How are the maps different?
  - Do buildings, roads, and rivers look different? How?
  - Is the perspective different? Does one of the maps look flatter than the other?
- How are the maps similar?
  - Do they have common traits such as a **title** or **labels**?
  - Is there anything that appears in both maps? (e.g., *Ottawa River*)
- Which map do you think is better? Is there one that you like better than the other? Why?








Image: "Map of City of Ottawa", ink on paper, Bytown Museum, P099

Part B: Exploring your Neighborhood

Students can complete this worksheet at school or at home, in preparation of creating their map.

What can you find in your neighborhood?

<div><p>Buildings</p></div>	
<div><p>Streets</p></div>	
<div><p>Favourite places</p></div>	
<div><p>Nature</p></div>	
<div><p>Other features</p></div>	

## Part C: Creating your Map

Using observations about your neighborhood, it is time to create your own map! You can use your own piece of paper, or the template on the next page.

Make sure to include the following features in your map!

- |                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| ✓ Streets               | ✓ A title   |
| ✓ Buildings             | ✓ A compass |
| ✓ Nature                | ✓ A legend  |
| ✓ Your favourite places | ✓ Labels    |

**Consider this:** Sometimes, it is easier to represent features with symbols – this is called using a *legend*. For example, instead of drawing a soccer field, you could just draw a small soccer ball to represent each soccer field. This makes the map easier to draw *and* to read!

### What symbols could you use for your legend?

Symbol	What does it represent?	Symbol	What does it represent?

After creating your map, share it with the class!

### Discussion Prompts

Have students share their map and describe its features.

- How do you get from this place to that place? Which direction would you go?
- Can you identify *this* particular place on your map?
- What purposes do different features have on your map? (e.g., school, home, park, roads, etc.)

Have students compare their maps to each others' and to the ones provided in this program.

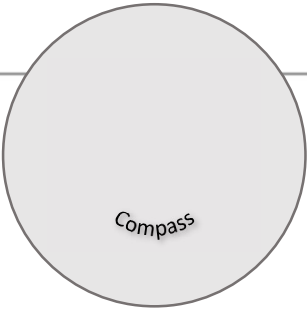
- Why are different features included on each map?
- Are the maps drawn from different perspectives? (i.e., different viewpoints)
- Are all of the maps the same size, or do they use different **scales**?

Ask students why maps might be useful in their everyday lives.

- What purposes do they serve? (e.g., to help you get from one place to another, to represent certain information such as buildings in a community, etc.)



**My Map:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Thank you for participating!



## About the Bytown Museum

Housed in Ottawa's oldest stone structure, the Bytown Museum explores the city's history from the early years of Rideau Canal construction, through the rough and tumble days of Bytown, to its emergence as Canada's capital and beyond.

The Bytown Museum is Ottawa's museum, exploring the stories and values of an evolving city and its residents from its First Peoples through the early days as Bytown to present day Ottawa. The Museum is committed to engaging our visitors and community in discovery and dialogue as we aim to deepen the many connections within and between our diverse communities.

