

## [Glossary](#) [1]

The glossary below consists of terms used in the [standard background pages](#) [2] and [easy background pages](#) [3].

### **application | app**

A computer programme that performs a special function.

### **ancestry**

An ancestor is a person from whom one is descended or who lived in the past. The line of people from whom a person descends is referred to as their ancestry.

### **archaeologist**

A person who studies human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains.

### **cartography**

The process of drawing or making maps.

### **co-ordinates**

Group of numbers used to show a position.

### **culture**

A pattern of behavior shared by a society, or group of people. Many different things make up a society's culture. These things include food, language, clothing, tools, music, arts, customs, beliefs, and religion.

### **data**

A group of facts, for example numbers, words, measurements, or records of what we see.

### **geography**

The study of the physical features of the Earth and its atmosphere, and of human activity as it affects and is affected by these.

### **geospatial data**

Data or information about the location of specific things.

### **GIS**

Geographic Information Systems - maps that combine sets of information.

### **GPS**

Global Positioning System - uses the known distance between satellites to calculate exact locations.

### **heritage**

## **Glossary**

Published on LEARNZ (<http://www.learnz.org.nz>)

---

Features belonging to the culture of a particular society, such as traditions, languages, or buildings, that were created in the past and are still important.

### **latitude**

Distance from the equator in degrees, shown as horizontal lines on a map.

### **longitude**

Distance east or west from Greenwich, England, in degrees shown as vertical lines on a map.

### **map**

A drawing or other representation, usually on a flat surface, of all or part of the earth's surface, ordinarily showing countries, bodies of water, cities, mountains etc.

### **satellites**

Objects which are sent into space to orbit the Earth and send and receive information.

### **software**

Programmes used by a computer.

### **surveyors**

People who specialise in making accurate measurements on the surface of the earth to make maps.

### **topographic map**

Shows the shape of the surface, including altitude as well as natural and physical features - sometimes called a contour map.

### **tūrangawaewae**

'A place to stand'. Places where we feel especially empowered and connected.

### **virtual**

Not physically existing but made by software to show as if it is.

**Source URL:** <http://www.learnz.org.nz/mapping183/glossary>

### **Links**

[1] <http://www.learnz.org.nz/mapping183/glossary>

[2] <http://www.learnz.org.nz/mapping183/bg-standard>

[3] <http://www.learnz.org.nz/mapping183/bg-easy>