Reading coordinates: answers and notes

What your child practised: naming the x-axis, y-axis and origin, and describing positions on a grid as coordinates in the first quadrant (Year 4).

Page 1 · Warm up

P **(1, 4)** · Q **(3, 2)** · R **(5, 3)**

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. Check each one by starting at (0, 0), going across, then up.

Page 2 · A. Pip's map

A **(1, 3)** · B **(2, 5)** · C **(5, 2)**
D **(6, 6)** · E **(7, 1)** · F **(4, 7)**

B and C use the same two numbers, the other way round: they are different places.

Page 3 · B. Ring the right one

G **(0, 4)** · H **(3, 0)** · M **(2, 6)** · origin **(0, 0)**

Page 3 · C. Secret word

C, H, E, S, T: **CHEST**. If your child got letters like R, O or L, they read the numbers the wrong way round.

Page 3 · Challenge

No. K is 2 across and 4 up, so it is at **(2, 4)**. Leo read up first. (4, 2) is a different point.

Watch out for

- **Numbers the wrong way round**, like (5, 3) for (3, 5). Say "along the corridor, then up the stairs", and ask your child to trace the route with a finger.
- **Counting from 1 at the origin**, so each number is one too big. The origin is (0, 0): count the lines you move to, starting from 0.
- **Counting squares instead of lines.** Points sit where lines cross. Read the number printed on the line.
- **Points on an axis**, like (0, 4): a 0 means no steps that way.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Tile hunt:** on a tiled floor or a chessboard, pick a corner as (0, 0) and name where things are.
- **Mystery point:** say "I'm thinking of a point 3 across and 5 up". Your child says it as coordinates: (3, 5).
- **In the game:** Chapter 2, Plotting points at coordinates (x, y), turns it round: your child is given coordinates and marks the spot.