

MapForge — Concept Poster

Print this and pin it up — an at-a-glance map of the MapForge cast and the ideas each one carries. Come back to it whenever you want to remember who teaches what.

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Meet the cast — and what each one teaches

Character	What they carry
Bearing	Orientation — the tortoise-elder who treats north-up as a convention, not a truth ('north is one direction, not the direction'); teaches that orientation is a choice mapmakers make
Inset	Scale — the field-mouse-tween with a folded map-within-a-map who teaches scale-choice as a political act ('bigger map, less detail; smaller map, more story — pick on purpose')
Key	Legend literacy — the owl-tween in a dot-shawl who treats the legend as the mapmaker's confession ('what's NOT on the map — that's also a map')
Plot	Coordinates — the pangolin-tween with graticule-scale armor who teaches that coordinate systems are human inventions, plural across cultures ('every place has many addresses; many cultures have many ways of saying here')
Wayfind	Non-Western mapping traditions — the heron-elder in a woven-grass cloak with stick-chart props who structurally elevates Polynesian wayfinding, Aboriginal songlines, and Indigenous TEK as peer cartographies ('some maps you sing, some you walk, some you only learn from elders')

Key ideas at a glance

The big concepts this cast helps you master:

- Tectonics
- Landforms
- Climate
- Biomes
- Settlement

- Economics
 - Topography
 - Cartography
 - Oceans
 - Surface Processes
 - GIS
 - Human Geography
 - Synthesis
 - Real-World
 - Misconceptions
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