

Traveling Math

Activity 3 - Map of Sherwood Forest

One day as you take a stroll through the woods, you come across what appears to be a sealed roll of parchment lying in the crook of a tree. You look around, but there is no one in sight. You listen carefully, but all you can hear are the birds singing in the trees (a good sign that there is no danger afoot) and the brook babbling away nearby. Shrugging, you pick up the parchment roll and notice that the seal has been broken. You unroll the parchment and discover that you hold in your hands a map of Sherwood Forest, home of that famed robber of the rich and protector of the poor, Robin Hood! You are about to rush home with this treasure when it hits you - both Robin Hood's band of Merry Men and the Sheriff of Nottingham's minions will want this map and they may not care what happens to you if you are holding it! So you decide the safest thing to do would be to memorise the map and destroy the original.

You study the map, making careful note of the distances and directions of the various notable things, and then throw the original into the nearby brook, to wash away to parts unknown (or at least to parts not shown on the map)!

When you do return home later, you find a scrap of parchment and write down everything you remember from the map so you can use these clues to recreate it from memory later.

These are the things that you remember from the map:

- Sherwood Forest is due north of the town of Nottingham.
- The Dove River runs along the western boarder of the forest.
- The Trent River runs along the eastern boarder of the forest.
- The forest is approximately 55 km wide (east - west) and approximately 65 km long (north - south).

Can you believe THIS is math?

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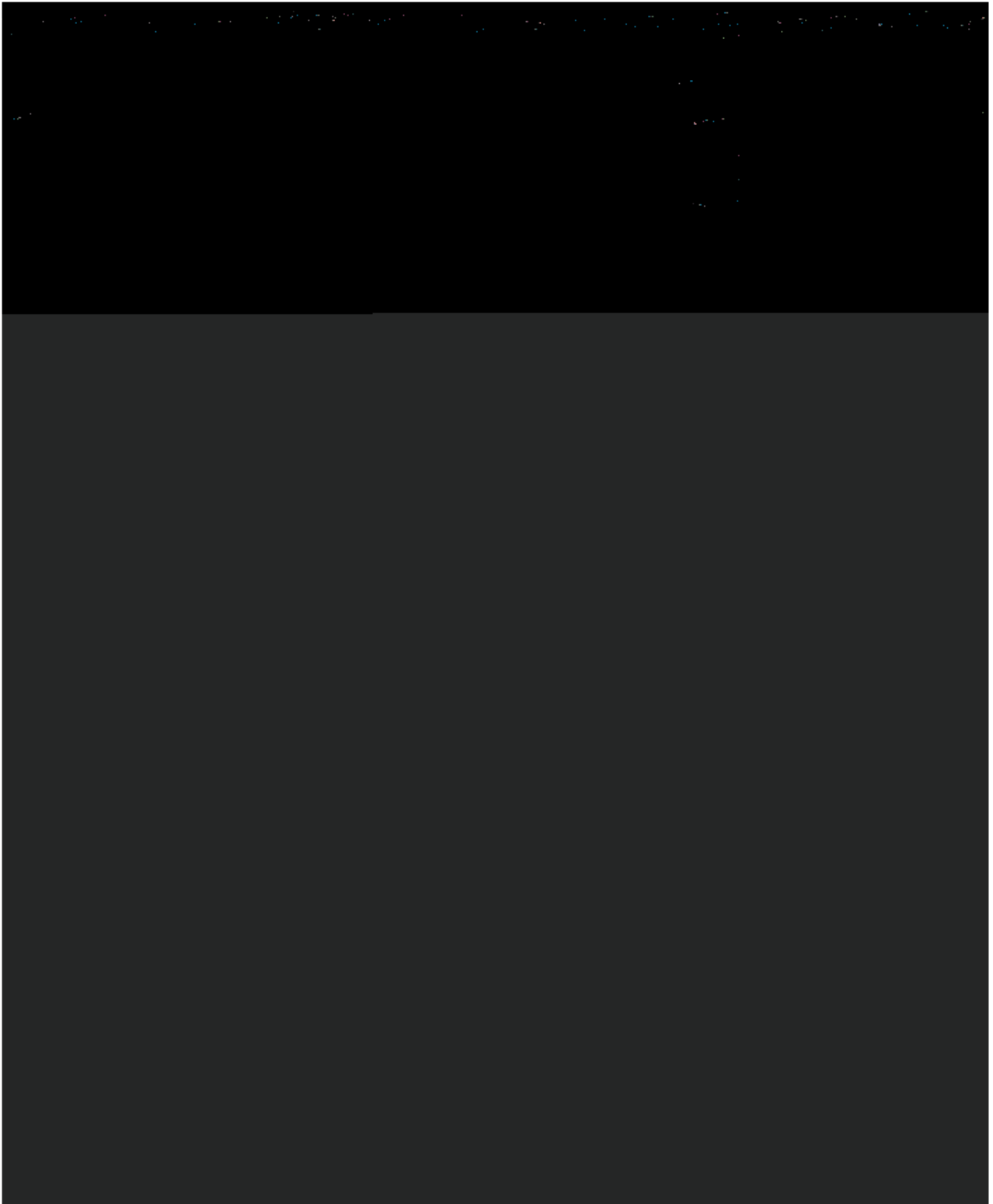
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- The bubbling brook near where you found the map runs roughly west to the middle of Sherwood Forest, and then north-east to south-west, and it starts at the Trent River in the northern half of the forest.
- The north-west quarter of the forest is where the main meeting place of the Merry Men is located.
- Friar Tuck's favourite spot to sit and sing is a large rock formation in the North-East corner, north of the bubbling brook.
- The bridge where Robin Hood did battle with Little John crosses the babbling brook in the northern half of the forest.
- The town of Sheffield is due north of Sherwood Forest.
- There are caves marked in the south-west corner of the forest (due north-west of the bubbling brook) with the word "gold" - I wonder what that could mean?
- There is a road that runs north / south through the western half of the forest, which crosses the bubbling brook at the very southern edge of Sherwood Forest.
- There is a clearing in the north-west quarter of the forest, just east of the Dove River, which is marked with a heart and RH + MM. Hmmm...

Attached is a blank piece of parchment perfect for sketching out the map. Give it a try - just make sure that none of the Sheriff's men can see what you are doing, else you might

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