

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Medieval & Renaissance Maps - Exploration Activity

Part One: **LOOK** at all of the maps for at least *10 seconds*. **FIND**:

- One thing you would like to know more about *(I wonder why...)*
- One thing you think you know or recognize *(I think I know...)*
- One thing you think is especially interesting *(I find it interesting that...)*

Part Two: Choose a map to **EXAMINE** carefully. **ANSWER** the questions (below) about it. Keep the following key terms in mind:

**Vernacular:** The language of the common people. In other words, a language that an uneducated person would speak. Only educated people knew Latin during the Renaissance.

**Myth:** a belief or story that includes non-human beings (such as gods or monsters) with powers and abilities that humans do not have. A group of myths is called a mythology.

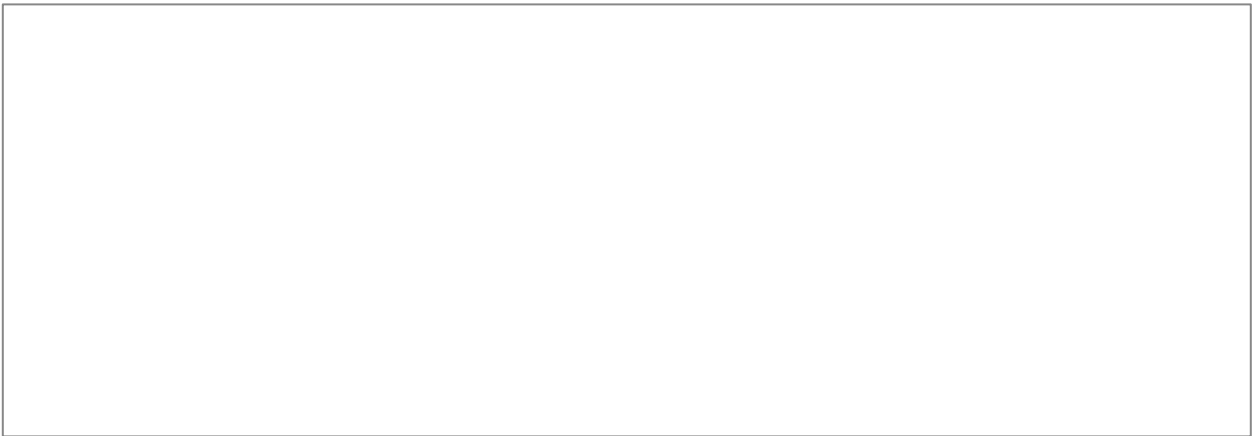
**Classical:** Ancient Greek or Roman. For example, when someone says “Classical mythology,” they mean the mythology of the ancient Greek and Romans.

**Medieval** or **Middle Ages:** The time after the Classical Era and before the Renaissance, roughly from 400 to 1500 AD. The most powerful being in Medieval Europe was the Catholic Church.

**Renaissance:** Means “Rebirth.” This time period (1453 – c.1700) got its name because Europeans saw their society as the rebirth of Classical culture. *(They loved anything Classical!)*

Map: \_\_\_\_\_ (put in the year it was made)

1. Draw a rough sketch of this map (*spend no more than twenty seconds on it*):



2. What part of the world is this map showing? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Describe how this map looks. Is it colorful or black-and-white? Does it have a lot of pictures or only a few? Does it look elegant or rough? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. **Guess** the language used (*Hint: ‘Nova’ = Latin; ‘Nouvelle’ = French; ‘Nieu’ = Dutch*) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you think this map was made for regular people or for very educated people? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Are there humans or real animals on this map? If so, how accurate do they look? What, if anything, did the artist get wrong? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Are there monsters or mythological beings on this map? If so, describe 3 of them below.
- a. Name or Description: \_\_\_\_\_
- Is it meant to be frightening? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What part of the world or map is it pictured in? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Could it be based on a real-life animal, and which one? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Name or Description: \_\_\_\_\_
- Is it meant to be frightening? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What part of the world or map is it pictured in? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Could it be based on a real-life animal, and which one? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Name or Description: \_\_\_\_\_
- Is it meant to be frightening? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What part of the world or map is it pictured in? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Could it be based on a real-life animal, and which one? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Do you think the medieval Catholic Church would like this map? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Do you consider this map a Renaissance map or Medieval map? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_