

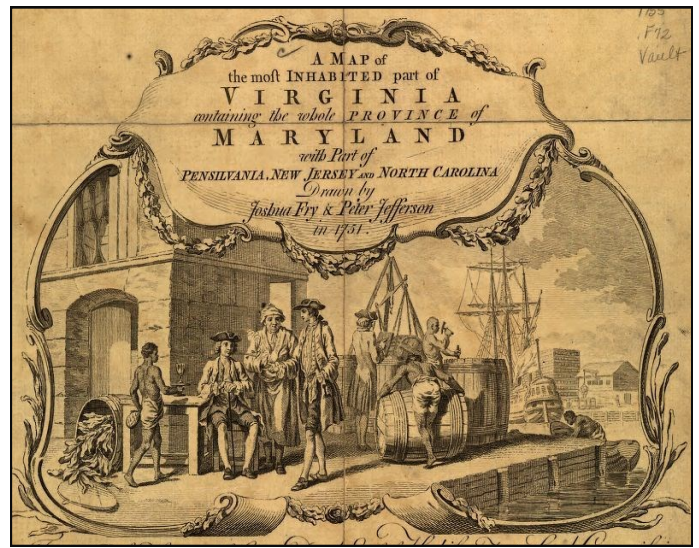
# Map Skills

Maps can show you more than just where towns and cities are. Examine relationships between towns and geographic features to learn more about early Virginia.

## What you will need:

- 1751 Jefferson-Fry Map, printed from page 2.
- A pencil and paper if writing answers.
- Adult assistance for younger students.

To see the full map, a primary source, in the Library of Congress' collection, visit [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov).



## Analyze the map:

1. Maps include a compass to identify the cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west.) Complete the compass on the map.
2. Some maps use different colors for land and water, but not this one. Look carefully to find these water features:
  - The Chesapeake Bay (hint: look to the east)  
This large body of water connects to the Atlantic Ocean. The rivers listed below all flow into (connect to) the Chesapeake Bay.
  - Four major rivers in Virginia:
    - Potomac River (spelled Patowmack on the map)
    - Rappahannock River
    - York River
    - James River (Hint: look to the south)
3. There are a lot of lines on this map. Do you see more waterways or roads? Why do you think that is? Remember, this map was made in 1751—how could people travel from one place to another then?
4. Find Belhaven Alexandria on the map (today it is just known as Alexandria). Describe its location in relation to the Potomac River.
5. Find Fredericksburg and Richmond, two other towns in Virginia. What do these towns have in common with Alexandria?
6. This map was made when Virginia was a colony of England. Why would England want to build towns on the river? Look to the picture on this page, which is also from this map, for ideas. (Hint: The Chesapeake Bay connects to the Atlantic Ocean).







Belhaven or  
Alexandria

Fredericksburg

Richmond

