Knowing how to find your way using a compass

To find your way on maps, the first thing you need to know is how to read a compass. A compass has four cardinal points, namely north, east, south and west. The inter-cardinal or ordinal directions are northeast, southeast, southwest and northwest.

Remember that a compass on a map, will show you where the cardinal points are for that specific map. The compass will not always show NORTH pointing to the top of the map, therefore always make sure that you check where the compass shows NORTH on that specific map.

A lot of information is required to make a map complete, but most maps do not have enough space to give this information in words. Instead of having the full name of a specific place on a map, symbols are used in the place of words.

A legend or a key is given on most maps to explain what specific symbols on the map mean, for example, if you see this symbol on a map: It means there are restrooms (toilets) at that specific spot where we see the symbol.

This is an example of a key or legend that is used for a site map at a Waterpark.

Landmarks are natural or artificial features that stand out and can usually be seen from far away. When giving directions to someone, mentioning the landmarks will make it easier for a person to find their way.

Example: Drive for two kilometres, you will see a Shell garage, then turn left at the first robot. The Shell garage will be the landmark.

Maps are drawn to scale. That means that the distances in real life are scaled when drawn on the map. All maps have a scale that helps you to calculate the distance between points on the map, in real life.
Charlie is visiting a friend in Terry Town, but he is not very good with directions. Please help him find his way.

1. Ellie has to meet Charlie at the Forest Park, name three landmarks that Ellie will pass on her way to the park, if she walks along Fire Street and Forest Street.

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. If Ellie has to walk to school, from where she is on the map, in which direction will she need to walk?

________________________________________________________________

3. If Charlie is at the school, the church will be in a ________________________ direction from him.

4. If Ellie is at the hospital, the Market will be in a __________________________ direction from her.
5. Charlie has to buy snacks for Ellie at the market and then meet her at school. Please direct Charlie from where he is, to the market and then to the school. Use clear directions and remember to mention all the landmarks that Charlie will pass on his way. (There is more than one way to get there, remember to choose the route that is easiest to explain.)

6. Charlie has given Ellie the following directions to get from her house to his house. Draw your own map, using the directions. Make sure to indicate all the landmarks.

Ellie, walk in a northern direction from your house. At the first stop street, turn left and follow the road until you see the tennis courts on your left. At the next stop street, turn right. Keep following the road, passing the big old Oak Tree on your left. When you reach the post box, turn left at the round-about. You will then reach a robot, turn right and go straight until you see the Engen garage on your left. Our house is just across the street from the garage.
Memo:

1. Ellie has to meet Charlie at the Forest Park, name three landmarks that Ellie will pass on her way to the park, if she walks along Fire Street and Forest Street.
   1. Police Station
   2. Fire Station
   3. Hospital

2. If Ellie has to walk to school from where she is shown on the map, in which direction will she need to walk? northern direction

3. If Charlie is at the school, the church will be in a southern direction from him.

4. If Ellie is at the hospital, the Market will be in an eastern direction from her.

5. Charlie has to buy snacks for Ellie at the market and then meet her at school. Please direct Charlie from where he is, to the market and then to the school. Use clear directions and remember to mention all the landmarks that Charlie will pass on his way. (There is more than one way to get there, remember to always direct using the easiest route.)

   Walk in a southern direction, you will see Forest Park on your right. Follow the road, past the Stop street. You will see a hospital on your right. At the next intersection, turn left at the Fire Station. Follow the path, you will see the Police Station on your right. Cross the Stop street and the Market will now be on your left.

   From the Market, walk in an eastern direction until you reach the round-about/traffic circle. You will see the Church on your right, turn left at the round-about/traffic circle into Church street. The Market will still be on your left and an apartment building on your right. At the next Stop street, turn right into John Street, the school will now be on your left.

   (NOTE: There is more than one way to get to any destination. Encourage learners to choose the route that is the easiest to explain. Do not make your sentences too long, rather use more, shorter sentences. Mention as many landmarks as possible, try to use the proper compass directions).

6. Charlie has given Ellie the following directions to get from her house to his house. Draw your own map, using the directions. Make sure to indicate all the landmarks.