

Vocabulary: Ocean Mapping



Vocabulary

- Coordinates – a set of numbers that describe where something is located.
 - The location of a point on Earth’s surface is specified by its *latitude* and *longitude*.
 - For example, the coordinates of Washington, D.C., are 38° N, 77° W.
- Latitude – a location’s distance north or south of the equator.
 - Latitude is measured in degrees north or south.
 - The latitude of the equator is 0°, the latitude of the North Pole is 90° N, and the latitude of Washington, D.C., is 38° N.
- Longitude – a location’s distance east or west of the prime meridian.
 - Longitude is measured in degrees east or west.
 - The prime meridian runs from the North Pole to the South Pole and passes through the original Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England.
 - The longitude of Washington, D.C., is 77° W.
- Sonar – a technique of detecting objects underwater using sound waves.
 - High-frequency sound waves are transmitted through water. The waves bounce off objects and are detected. The distance to an object is determined by measuring the amount of time required for the reflected sound wave to return to the device.
 - The acronym “SONAR” stands for “SOund NAvigation and Ranging.”