

# Getting to Grips with Grid References!





The background of the slide is a map of India and its surrounding regions, including parts of Southeast Asia and the Middle East. The word "INDIA" is prominently displayed in large, blue, spaced-out letters across the top of the map. The map shows various geographical features like rivers, coastlines, and political boundaries.

# Learning Objective

To understand how to use four-figure and six-figure grid references.

The background of the slide is a detailed map of a local area, possibly a town or village, with a magnifying glass over a specific section. The map shows buildings, roads, and green spaces. The magnifying glass is positioned over a grid area, highlighting the importance of grid references in map reading.

## Success Criteria

- To understand the purpose of grid references.
- To use four-figure and six-figure grid references to locate features on a map.
- To apply the use of four-figure and six-figure grid references to an OS map.

# OS Map Symbols

1



viewpoint

2

CG

coastguard

3



picnic site

4



golf course

5



parking

6



bus/coach station



# OS Map Symbols

7



campsite

8



information centre

9

PH

public house

10



windmill

11



place of worship

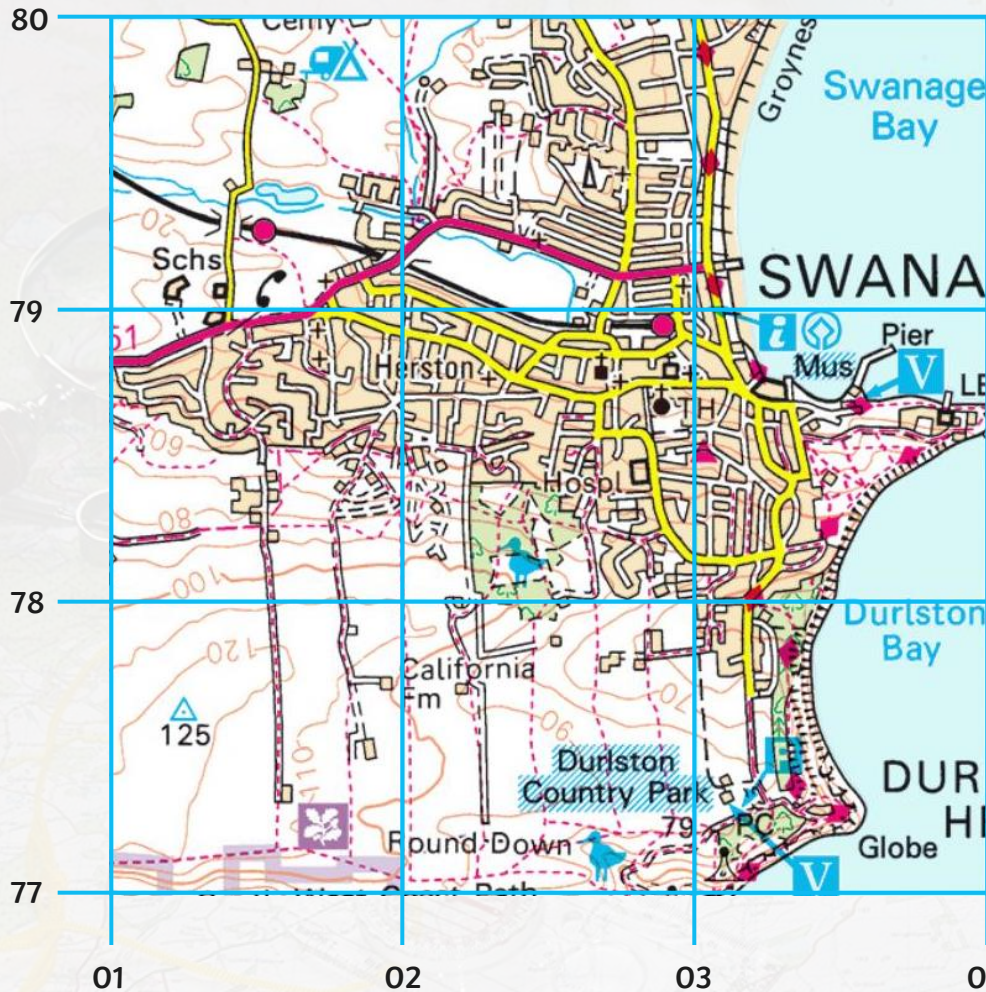
12



telephone



# What Are Four-Figure Grid References?



Four-figure grid references are used to locate a particular grid square on a map.

Why might this be useful?

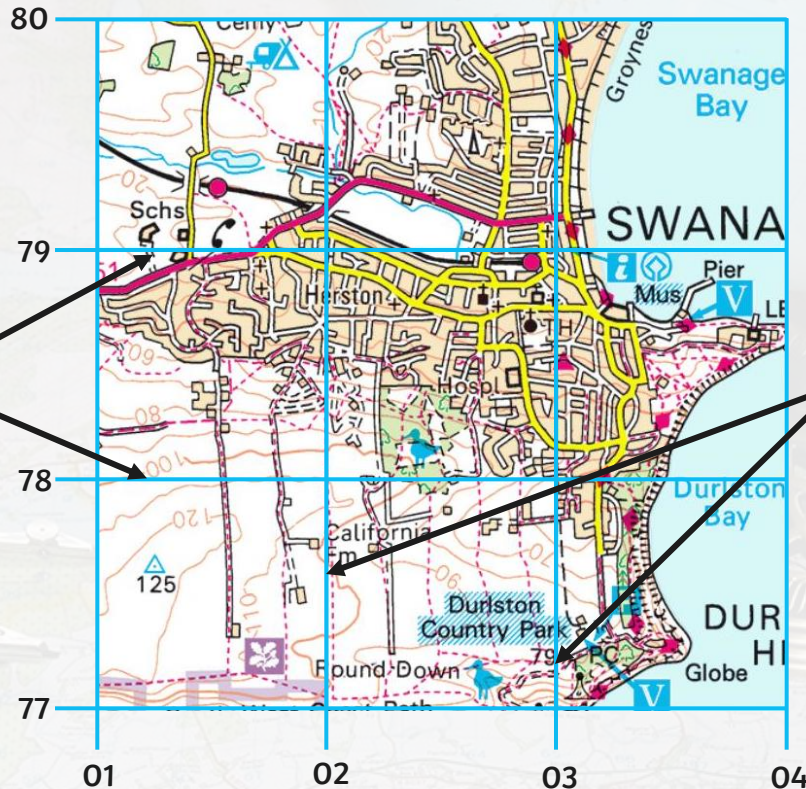
To create a four-figure grid reference you use the **grid lines** and **grid numbers**.



# What Are Four-Figure Grid References?



The horizontal gridlines are called **northings** and they increase as you move northwards.



The vertical gridlines are called **eastings** and they increase as you move eastwards.



# What Are Four-Figure Grid References?



How to find a **grid square**.

If the grid reference is:

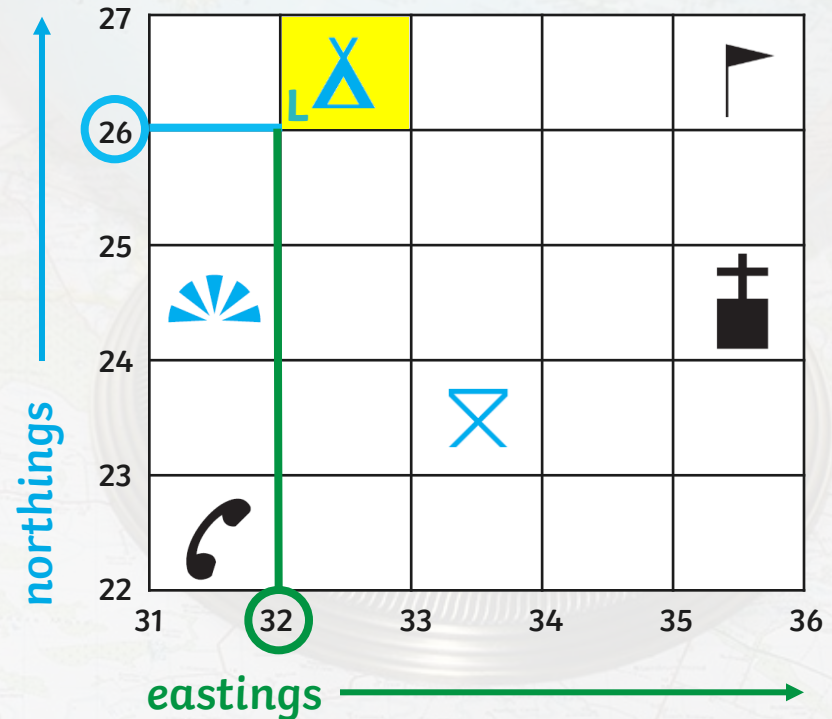
**3226**

The first two numbers give **the eastings**.

The second two numbers give **the northings**.

Locate the point where the easting and northing grid lines meet. This is the bottom **L**eft-hand corner of grid square 3226...

**...the campsite.**



Remember.... **eastings** then **northings**!

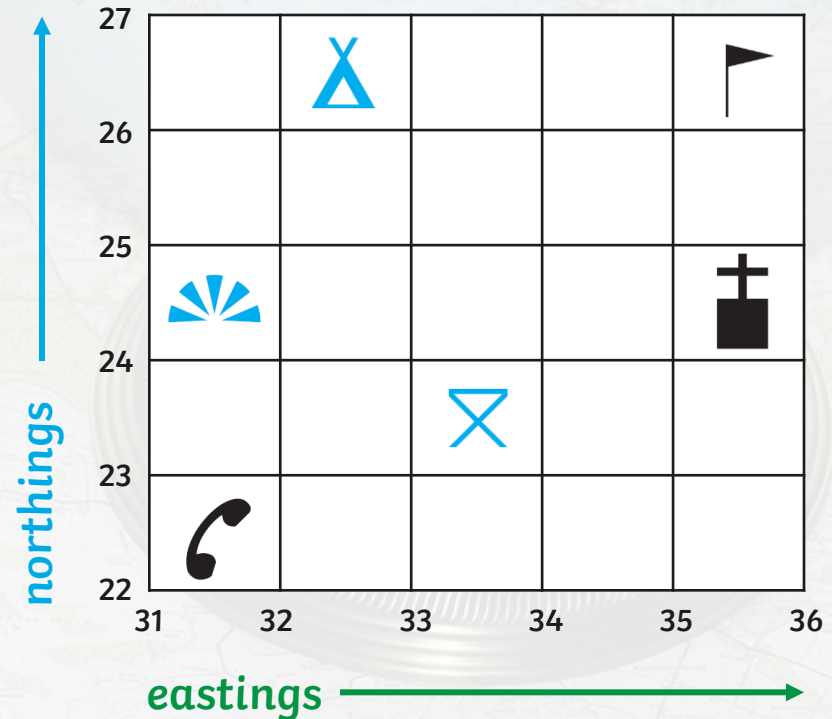
**Along** the corridor and **up** the stairs!

# What Are Four-Figure Grid References?



## Your Turn!

- 1 What OS map symbol is found in each of these grid squares?
  - a. 3526 **golf course**
  - b. 3124 **viewpoint**
  - c. 3323 **picnic site**
- 2 What is the grid reference for the:
  - a. church? **3524**
  - b. telephone? **3122**



viewpoint  
 telephone  
 camp site

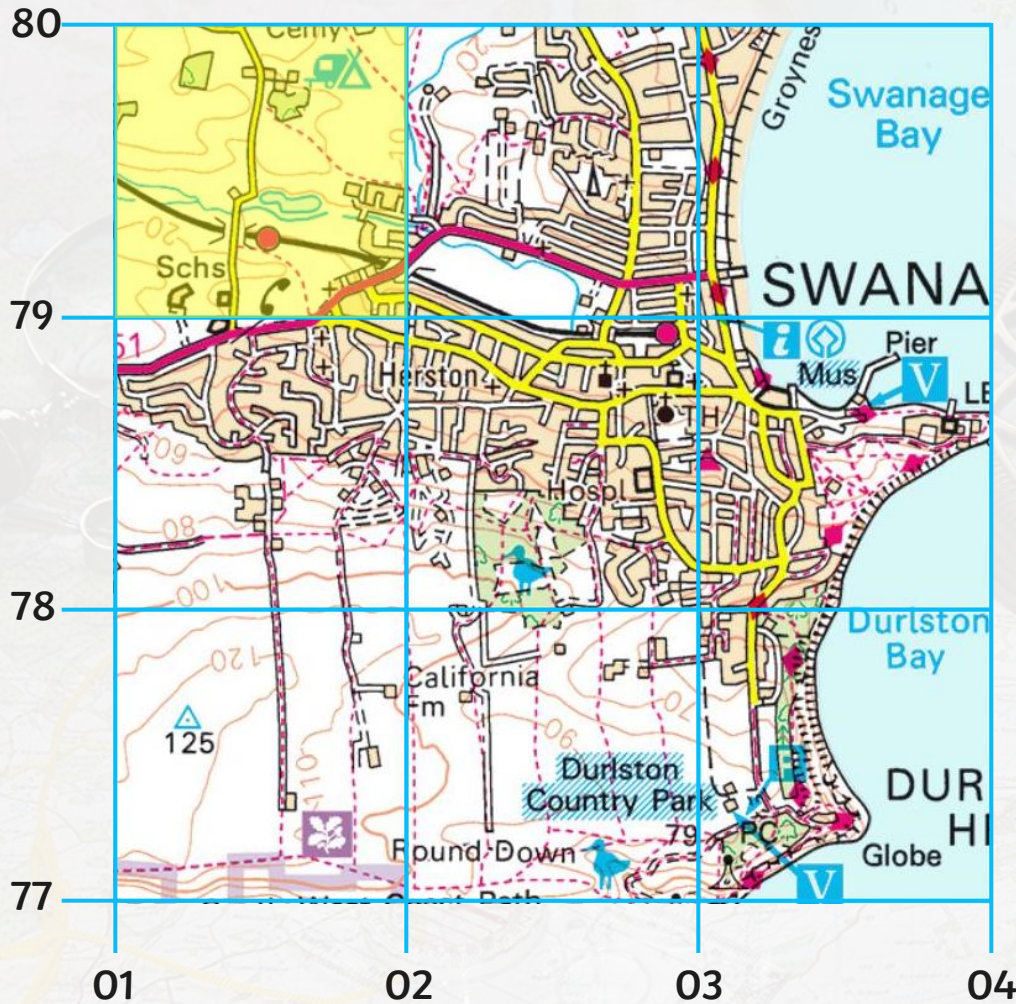
picnic site  
 golf course  
 church







# What Are Six-Figure Grid References?



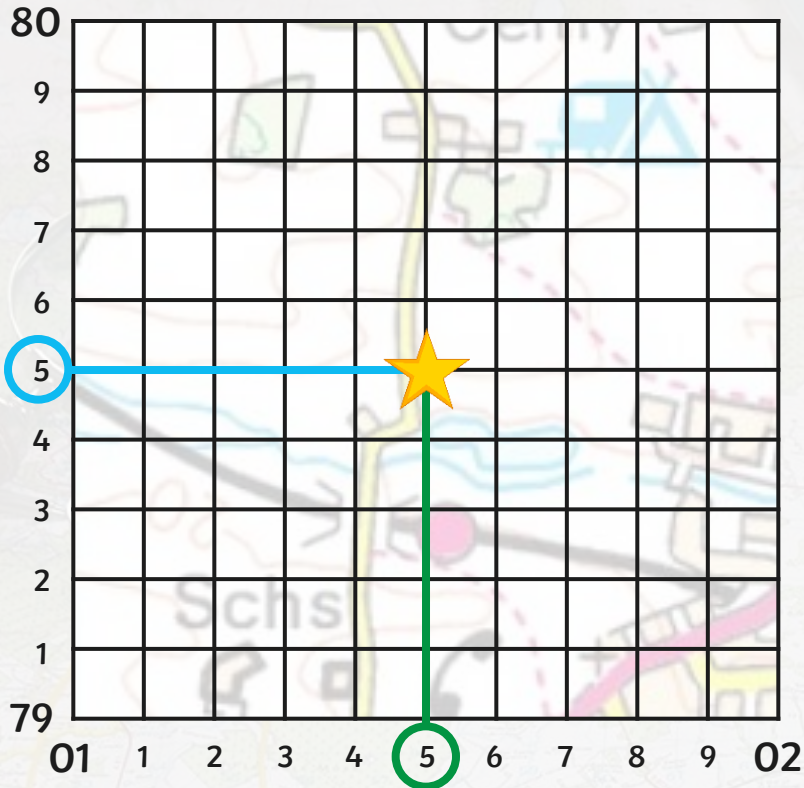
Four-figure grid references are used to find a grid square...

...but we can use six-figure grid references to find an exact location within a grid square, so they are much more accurate than four-figure grid references!

**Let's look at grid square 0179 in more detail...**



# What Are Six-Figure Grid References?



The grid square is divided into tenths.

**Example:**

**015795**

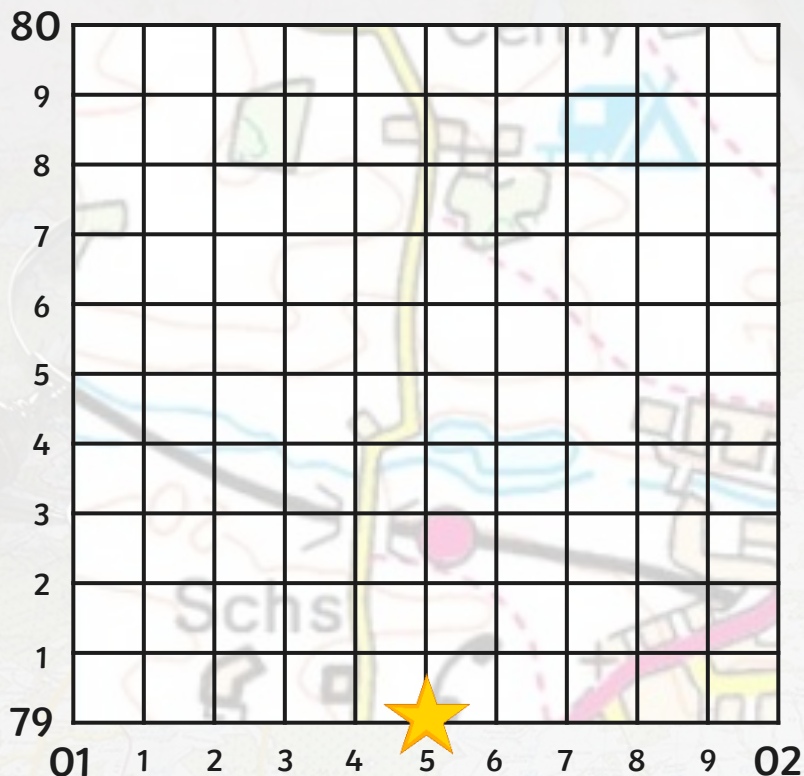
The first three numbers give the **easting** which includes the number of tenths.

The last three numbers give the **northing** which includes the number of tenths.

Find the point where the easting and northing grid lines meet to find your grid reference point.



# What Are Six-Figure Grid References?



What is the six-figure grid reference of the star?

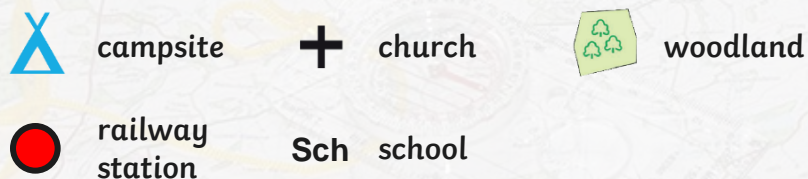
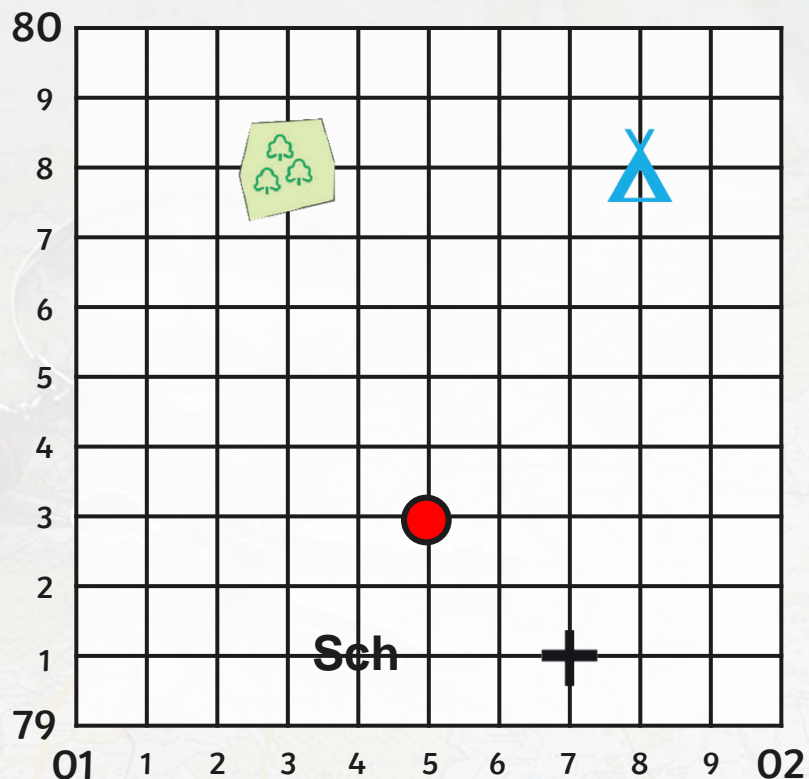
If a symbol is **exactly** on a grid line, this means 0 tenths along or up. You must write the 0 in the grid reference!

e.g. The star is:

**015790**



# What Are Six-Figure Grid References?



## Your Turn!

- 1 What OS map symbol is found at:
  - a. 015793 **railway station**
  - b. 018798 **campsite**
- 2 What is the six-figure grid reference for:
  - a. the school? **014791**
  - b. the church? **017791**
  - c. the woodland? **013798**

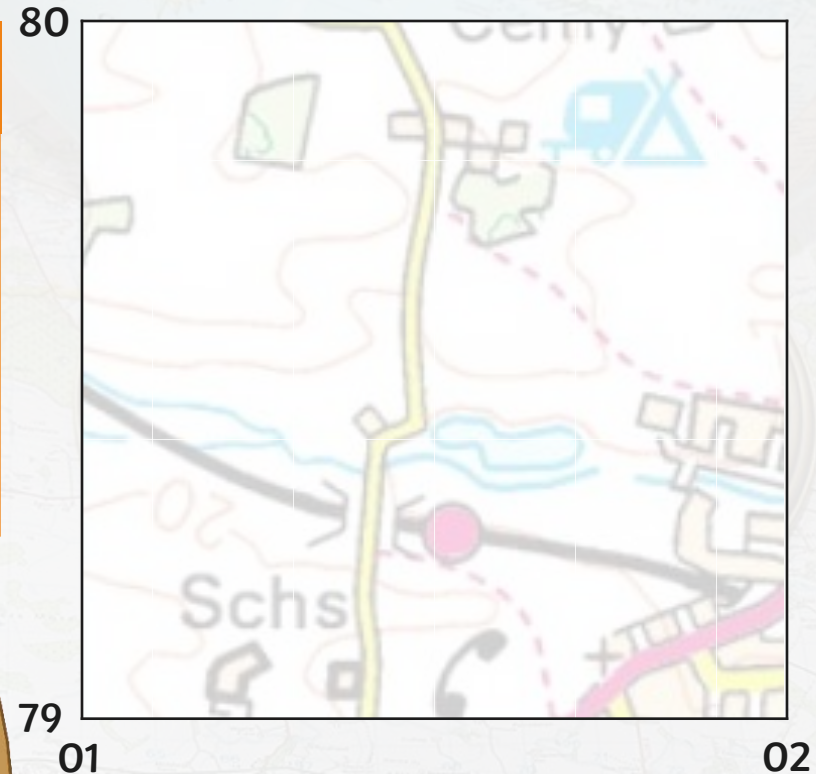


# What Are Six-Figure Grid References?



## Important!

On a map, the grid squares do **not** have the tenths marked on them... so you have to use a ruler to help you or carefully estimate where the tenths are!





# Figure It Out: Swanage

Complete the **Swanage Map Activity Sheet**.



Answer these questions using the map of Swanage.

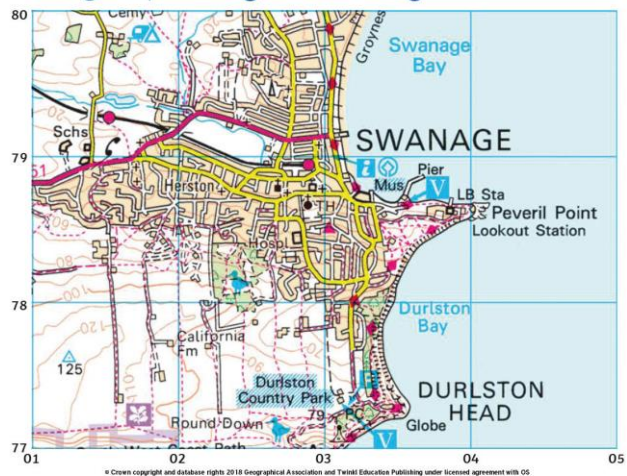
- Find Swanage Pier on the map. Which of the following is its four-figure grid reference?
  - 0378
  - 0377
  - 0279
- Find Durlston Country Park on the map. Which of the following is its six-figure grid reference?
  - 0377
  - 0277
  - 7703
- What is the name of the bay that is found in grid square 0478?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What is located at six-figure grid reference 0277?
  - a church
  - a triangulation pillar
  - a school
- What is located at six-figure grid reference 0377?
  - railway station
  - a hospital
  - a campsite

## Extension

Name four features that can be found in grid square 0377.

_____
_____
_____
_____

## Swanage Map Four-Figure and Six-Figure Grid References



What is the purpose of grid references?

Grid references help us to \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the paragraph below:

\_\_\_\_\_ more \_\_\_\_\_ four-figure \_\_\_\_\_ location \_\_\_\_\_

Four-figure grid references are used to find a \_\_\_\_\_ location. Six-figure grid references are used to find an exact \_\_\_\_\_ location. Six-figure grid references are \_\_\_\_\_ much \_\_\_\_\_ accurate than four-figure grid references.





