ACTIVITY 8 Navigation and Mapping

The Lewis and Clark Expedition utilized the best technology available in the early 19th century. Some 19th century navigation and mapping technology is still used today. Most has been developed into more technologically advanced equipment.

See if you can name the navigation or mapping instruments and list the instruments used by Lewis and Clark.

An instrument used to measure the angle and altitude of the sun, moon and stars above the horizon to determine latitude.

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An instrument for finding directions by means of a magnetized needle turning and pointing to the Earth's magnetic north.

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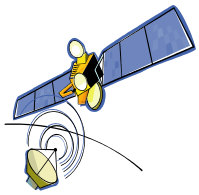

This orbits and scans the entire Earth every 15 days. It sends information through electronic signals. This information is then transferred to a Geographic Information System (GIS) to produce highly accurate and detailed maps widely used by scientists to make climatic and geographic observations.

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A navigating system using satellites that continually circles the Earth and sends signals. This system allows the user to accurately determine his/her location (longitude, latitude and altitude) in any weather, day or night, anywhere on Earth.

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A highly accurate clock used to find longitude.
To maintain its accuracy and usefulness, it needs to be wound daily.

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Word Bank

Compass
Global Positioning System (GPS)
Landsat Earth Scanning Satellite
Octant
Chronometer

Which of the above navigational tools did Lewis and Clark use?

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