Task 6: Map Scale

Standard:

1. Determine the distance between cities using a map scale.

Task:

Mapmakers can make things on a map larger or smaller than they really are. We can do this by using a map scale. The scale of a map is the ratio of a distance on the map to the corresponding distance on the ground. This simple concept is complicated by the curvature of the Earth's surface, which forces scale to vary across a map.

When you measure distances using a map scale, you can measure several different ways. The easiest and most accurate way is to use a standard measure or metric measure ruler. Look at this scale. One inch stands for one mile. Use the scale to complete the following activity:

![Map Scale Diagram]

The task:
1. Choose 10 state capitals in the United States on the map provided.
2. Identify and label the capital cities you are going to connect.
3. Draw a line connecting the capitals.
4. Using the map scale ratio above: 1 inch = 1 mile, determine the distance between the two capital cities. Remember to show work on a separate piece of paper!

Rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1-0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify Capital Cities</td>
<td>Identified and labeled 10 capital cities on the map of the United States</td>
<td>Identified and labeled 9-8 capital cities on the map of the United States</td>
<td>Identified and labeled 7 or fewer capital cities on the map of the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw line between Capital Cities</td>
<td>Connected capital cities with a line</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Did not connect all capital cities with a line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determine Distance Between Cities (X 2)</td>
<td>Accurately determined distance between cities—showing all work</td>
<td>Accurately determined distance between cities—showing some work</td>
<td>Did not accurately determine distance between cities—showing little or no work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Points Earned: _________ / 12 Points Possible