

ACTIVITY

3. The scale for this map is 1 centimeter represents 300 miles.



- Use your ruler to find the approximate distance from Atlanta to Chicago on the map.
- What is the approximate real distance from Atlanta to Chicago?
- Find the approximate real distance from New York to San Francisco.

a. The distance on the map is very close to $2\frac{1}{2}$ centimeters. 4th graders shouldn't be expected to use mixed numbers, but they should say something like this:

“the distance is 2 centimeters and about half of another centimeter.”

b. Student explanations should be similar to this:

Since each centimeter on the map stands for 300 miles, then half of a centimeter stands for half of 300 miles – which is 150 miles.

So now we know that 2 centimeters stands for 600 miles, and the extra half of a centimeter stands for 150 miles. So the distance between the real cities is about 750 miles.