

SOME NEW CONCEPTS IN DESIGNING A NEW SCHOOL ATLAS
OF GREECE

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After many decades of immobility in the field of school Atlases the University of Thessaloniki and published by a local publisher. This new school Atlas of Greece is based on some new ideas related to child's perception and to interactive teaching. The new Atlas is not only a tool for knowledge but also a medium to exercise, improve and develop the child's ability to search, compare and transform the old solid learning into an active process. The principle of the continuous geographical space, of the unique cartographic scale as well as the introduction of abstractions in the codification of various themes, make this new school Atlas an interesting experiment not only in the field of Geography and Cartography but also in Pedagogics. The whole setting requires the active involvement of the teacher who should be a user himself before entering into the teaching process. The Atlas part with exercises and tests is designed to be the integrating factor in a strict connection with the maps. Diagrammes and tables are not functioning as static sources of additional information but mainly as a feedback for a better and deeper study of maps. All the main phases of the cartographic process, namely data collection, elaboration and plotting were carried out using digital methods and technics through Intergraph's cartographic software and hardware.

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