

EMP4752
GRADES 7-9



Map Skills



**Revised
and Updated
for 2009!**

Asia



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The Lorenz Educational Press Team

Map Skills

Grades 7, 8, 9

Map Skills

Asia

by R. Scott House
and Patti M. House

Explore the varied features of the Asian continent while reinforcing basic map reading skills. Sixteen student pages and accompanying blackline and full-color maps coordinate to provide a relational study of the elevations, vegetation, climates, products, populations, and peoples of Asia. Student pages challenge students to combine maps and additional resources in order to answer questions and make judgments.

Question topics follow the *Five Themes of Geography* as outlined by the National Geographic Society: finding absolute and relative locations on a map, relating physical and human characteristics to an area, understanding human relationships to the environment, tracing movement of peoples and goods throughout an area, and organizing countries and continents into regions for detailed study.

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Table of Contents

Asia in the World..... 1	Land Use 9
Asia in the World 1a,1b*	Land Use 9a,9b*
Countries and Capitals 2	Population Patterns and Large Cities 10
Countries and Capitals 2a,2b*	Population Patterns and Large Cities ... 10a,10b*
Physical Features 3	Empires and Civilizations 11
Physical Features..... 3a,3b*	Empires and Civilizations 11a,11b*
Elevations and Physical Features 4	The Former Soviet Union 12
Elevations and Physical Features 4a,4b*	The Former Soviet Union 12a,12b*
Precipitation 5	Southwestern Asia 13
Precipitation 5a,5b*	Southwestern Asia 13a,13b*
Climates 6	Southeastern Asia 14
Climates..... 6a,6b*	Southeastern Asia 14a,14b*
Natural Vegetation 7	Eastern Asia 15
Natural Vegetation 7a,7b*	Eastern Asia 15a,15b*
Products 8	Southern Asia 16
Products 8a,8b*	Southern Asia 16a,16b*

* Full-color transparencies are found at the back of the book. Each transparency should be used to introduce the corresponding unit.

Teaching Guide

This book has been designed to strengthen map reading and analyzing skills and to familiarize students with the features of different regions of Asia. Each section contains a student page and an accompanying map that is used to complete the student page. Each page builds upon previous pages and students should have access to all previously completed maps. Encourage students to use latitude and longitude markings when comparing features between maps. Students may use related resources to assist them in completing the student pages. Accept all reasonable answers that can be logically supported. Color transparencies, located in the back of the book, will assist you in your classroom presentation.

Map 1: Asia in the World

This Robinson projection map provides a continuous map with relatively little distortion of shapes and sizes. It is a compromise between rectangular projections such as the Mercator or Peters and more accurate interrupted projections. The student page offers directional activities and a world overview.

Extension Activities:

1. Note that Asia is the world's largest continent and compare its size to other more familiar areas. Compare the latitudes that Asia covers and discuss the effect of latitude on climate.
2. Use this map to discuss the European exploration of the world. Have students trace the routes of Dias, Da Gama, and Magellan.
3. Discuss non-European exploration and trade routes. Have students trace routes of Arabic, Indian, and Chinese traders.

Map 2: Countries and Capitals

This map is based on information accurate as of late 2008. Names change occasionally as political regimes rise and fall. Use this information with caution. This page can be used for latitude and longitude practice or the map can be labeled using a classroom atlas or textbook.

Extension Activities:

1. Make a copy of the map. Have students color the countries according to dates when independence was achieved. Use different colors for specified date ranges.
2. Research the ownership of Asian colonies as of 1914. Color the colonies according to their controlling country: Netherlands, England, United States, France, and so on.
3. Make choropleth maps for a variety of statistics. A choropleth map uses a different color for a different range. For example, have students research the literacy rate for the countries of the continent and then color the countries according to specified percentages (20%, 20-50%).

Map 3: Physical Features

The student page provides a narrative description of the features of Asia. Students will read the description and label the features on the map. Alternatively, the teacher may wish to number the features on the map and have students match the numbers with the feature names. The map has not been numbered to provide maximum flexibility.

Extension Activities:

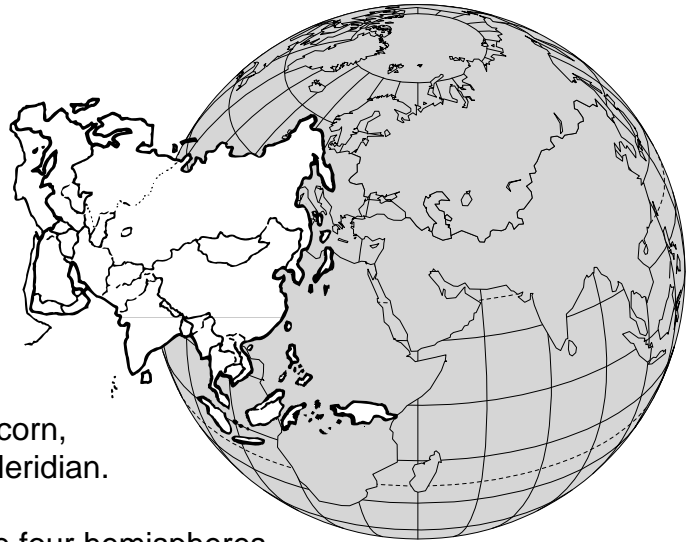
1. Have students draw the borders of the continental plates. This information can be found in an encyclopedia or atlas.
2. Have students use an atlas to find the latitudes and

Asia in the World

Use the map on page 1a to label the features and to complete the following.

1. Label and color the continents.

Africa	green
Asia	orange
Europe	yellow
Australia	red
North America	brown
South America	purple
Antarctica	gray



2. Label these parallels and meridians:
Equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn,
Arctic Circle, Antarctic Circle, and Prime Meridian.
3. Label the North and South poles. Label the four hemispheres.
4. Label the oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, and Arctic.
5. Label the compass rose on the map with these directions: north, south, east, west, northeast, southeast, northwest, and southwest.

-
6. Use the eight major directions or names of geographic features to complete the following.
- The _____ Ocean lies to the east of Asia.
 - The Arctic Ocean lies _____ of Asia.
 - South America lies east and slightly _____ of Asia.
 - Asia is located in the _____ and _____ hemispheres.
 - Asia is northeast of the continent of _____.
 - Europe is _____ of Asia.
 - None of Asia borders the _____ Ocean.
 - Antarctica is _____ of Asia.
 - The _____ Ocean is south of Asia.
 - The continent of _____ is south and southeast of Asia and borders the Indian Ocean.