# Africa mini-ATLAS

Double click to open the .pdf file.

At the edge of the screen is a vertical line of tiny icons; click on the one that looks like a short stack of pages.

This will open a list of data layers. Small checkmarks in the boxes mark the layers that are visible.

◆ Clicking on an empty box will make that data layer **visible**.

◆ Clicking on a checked box will make that layer **invisible**.

◆ Clicking on the word "options" will give you more choices, including a way to reset the map to the way it was when you opened the file.

800 Miles

1. Find the ocean names and river names layers and click to turn them on. Which three major rivers drain into the Atlantic Ocean? _____ _____ _____

2. The Nile River is one of the longest rivers in the world. Find the data layers that show rainfall in different seasons. Click to turn them on and off in any order you want. When do you think the Nile is most likely to flood? Circle: August December March

   Write one sentence to explain why floods would happen in that time of year:

3. Millet is a nutritious grain (like wheat). People can use it to make soup, cereal, and bread. It was a key part of the diet in many important empires in African history. What kind of animal are you most likely to see in the areas of Africa where millet seems to grow best? Circle: chimpanzee cheetah camel

4. An **ecoregion** is a large area that has a particular mixture of plants and animals. Turn on the ecoregion data layer and its key (they are separated in the layer list, in order to make it possible to see individual animals and crops at the same time). What ecoregions would you visit if you wanted to see big cats like cheetahs and lions?

   Circle: chaparral desert grassland dry savanna rainforest

5. Find the data layers that show fires in different seasons. Compare them with other layers. Write two sentences to explain the relationship between fires and rainfall.

Africa mini-ATLAS Investigation

Turn individual layers of the mini-Atlas on and off in order to investigate relationships among
   rainfall, wildfires, ecoregions, animals, crops, ancient capitals, and diseases like malaria.
Write a five-sentence paragraph about the location of the ancient African empires.
   Your paragraph should have a topic sentence that states your most important point.
   The next four sentences should describe specific evidence that supports that point.