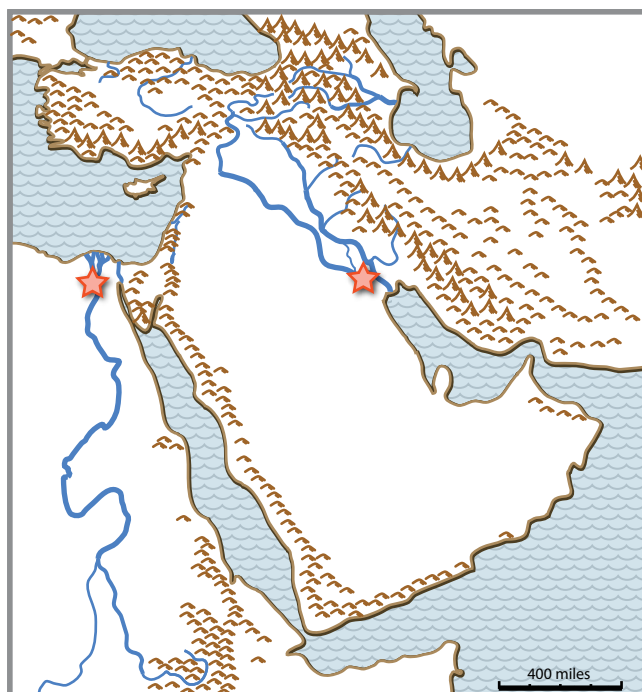# Southwest Asia mini-ATLAS

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.

400 miles

1. Deserts tend to form near the Tropic lines. Click to turn on the country borders, country names, and the Tropic of Cancer. Circle <u>two</u> countries that are located at the latitude of the Tropic of Cancer and therefore likely to be mainly desert:

    Egypt   Ethiopia   Iran   Saudi Arabia   Turkey   Yemen

2. Click to turn on the precipitation information. Put an X by the more accurate statement:

    ____ More precipitation (rain and snow) tends to fall in mountainous areas.

    ____ More precipitation tends to fall near the main stems of major rivers.

3. To reduce clutter, turn off the precipitation layers and the country names and borders. Click to show the cities at different times in ancient history. Sometime around 300 BCE, people seemed to change their mind about where to locate cities. In older times, they built most of their cities near rivers. Write a generalization about the location of cities in the time periods after 300 BCE.

4. Click to turn all the city locations off (to minimize clutter for the next investigation). Southwest Asia has the largest reserves of petroleum in the world. Circle the two bodies of water that have the most oil fields next to them (or even under them):

    Black Sea   Caspian Sea   Mediterranean Sea   Persian Gulf   Red Sea

5. Circle the country where Muslims are nearly all Sunni: Egypt   Iran   Saudi Arabia   Turkey   Yemen

6. Circle the country that has the most Shi'ite Muslims: Egypt   Iran   Saudi Arabia   Turkey   Yemen

7. Circle the country in which Muslims are most evenly divided between Shi'a and Sunni:

    Egypt   Iran   Saudi Arabia   Turkey   Yemen

8. Name three countries where the largest numbers of Kurds live.

    _____   _____   _____

Southwest Asia mini-ATLAS Investigation

Turn individual layers of the mini-Atlas on and off in order to investigate the relationships between mountains, rainfall, rivers, ancient cities, medieval trade routes, population groups, oil deposits, and modern country borders in Southwest Asia. Write a paragraph that contains a topic sentence and at least five generalizations to summarize your investigation.
Each of your generalizations should describe the map pattern of one thing and/or note possible causal relationships between two or more things (which often are on different data layers in the mini-Atlas).

Sample generalization: "Several long rivers start in rainy mountains and then flow through deserts before they reach sea level."