

# China 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.



1. Each dot on the population map represents 2 million people. Circle the phrase that you think is the best description of the overall pattern of population in China:  
Spread evenly    Mostly in the West    Mostly in the middle    Mostly in the southeast
2. Click to turn on the precipitation layer of information. How much rain seems to be needed to support dense population in the southern part of China? Circle: 10 20 40 60  
How about in the northeastern part of the country? Circle 10 20 40 60
3. Click to turn the population dots off (to minimize clutter for the next investigation).  
Put an x on the line by the best statement about the pattern of basic food production:  
 Rice in the west, wheat in the east     Rice in the south, wheat in the north  
 Rice in the north, wheat in the south     Rice in the middle, wheat around the edges
4. Click to turn the crops, rivers, and lakes off. Click to turn on the country borders and names.  
About how many other countries have borders with China? Circle: 10 14 18 22
5. Rank these countries according to the length of their borders with China (1 = longest):  
 Bhutan     Mongolia     Kazakhstan     Pakistan     Russia     Vietnam
6. For each of the ancient building projects, write the letter of the "job" it was built to do:  
 Grand Canal    A. Help defend farming communities against raids by the nomads in the north  
 Great Wall    B. Help transport different crops between the major farming regions of China  
 Silk Roads    C. Help trade Chinese goods with other civilizations in Africa and Europe
7. Click to turn on the map layer that shows the United States at the same scale and latitude.  
Circle the state that Mongolia is probably most like: Oregon N.Dakota Pennsylvania
8. Which border listed in question 5 has the most Chinese people living near it? \_\_\_\_\_  
Using any information from the mini-Atlas that you think is appropriate, explain why very few people live near the borders with the other countries listed in question 5.

## China mini-ATLAS Investigation

Turn individual layers of the mini-Atlas on and off in order to investigate the relationships between latitude, highlands, precipitation, rivers, major crops, population, highways, cities, and ancient building projects. 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).

Example: "North of the Great Wall, it is cold and dry, which may be why nomadic herders like the Mongols lived there and often raided the farming areas of China."