

Europe 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. The file opens with a map that shows mountains, rivers, and historically important ports. Put an x on the line next to the statement that best describes the longest river in Europe:
 It flows generally westward and ends in the Atlantic Ocean.
 It flows generally northward from the high Alps and ends in the North Sea.
 It flows generally eastward through several mountain areas and ends in the Black Sea.
2. Click to turn on the map that shows the United States at the same scale and latitude. Put an x on the line next to the most accurate generalization about the climate of Europe:
 Most of Europe is at or north of the latitude of Minnesota, but the surrounding ocean helps keep the winter temperatures from going as low as in Minnesota.
 The beaches of Europe are like the beaches of Florida, warm and sunny even in winter.
3. Click to turn the U.S. and the ports off (to minimize clutter for the next investigation). Click to turn on the peninsulas and their names. Rank these in order of size (1 = largest):
 Greece Iberia Italy Normandy Scandinavia
4. What two peninsulas were the original homeland of the Vikings? _____
5. Did the Roman Empire reach any of the territory that was called Poland in later times? Y N
6. Circle the physical feature that was a kind of boundary at the edge of the Roman Empire:
Danube River Iberian Peninsula Mediterranean Sea Scandinavian Peninsula
7. Circle the peninsula that does NOT have significant deposits of either coal or metal ores:
Balkan Peninsula Iberian Peninsula Italian Peninsula Scandinavian Peninsula
8. What does the lack of these resources mean for people who live on that peninsula?

Europe mini-ATLAS Investigation

Turn individual layers of the mini-Atlas on and off in order to investigate the relationships between geographic features such as latitude, mountains, rivers, ports, metal ores, coal, industrial areas, and major battles. Write a paragraph with a topic sentence and at least five generalizations to summarize your investigation. Each generalization should describe the map pattern of something and/or note possible causal relationships between two or more things (which often are displayed on different data layers in the mini-Atlas).

Here is a bit of factual information that you might not already know if you have not studied earth science: volcanoes usually occur where crustal plates collide, break apart, or move over a hot spot. The scattered pattern of volcanoes in Europe, therefore, has a message for you: this continent has had a long and complicated geologic history.

Sample generalization: "Many different European countries have significant deposits of coal and/or metal ores." (This is one result of the complicated geologic history of the continent!)