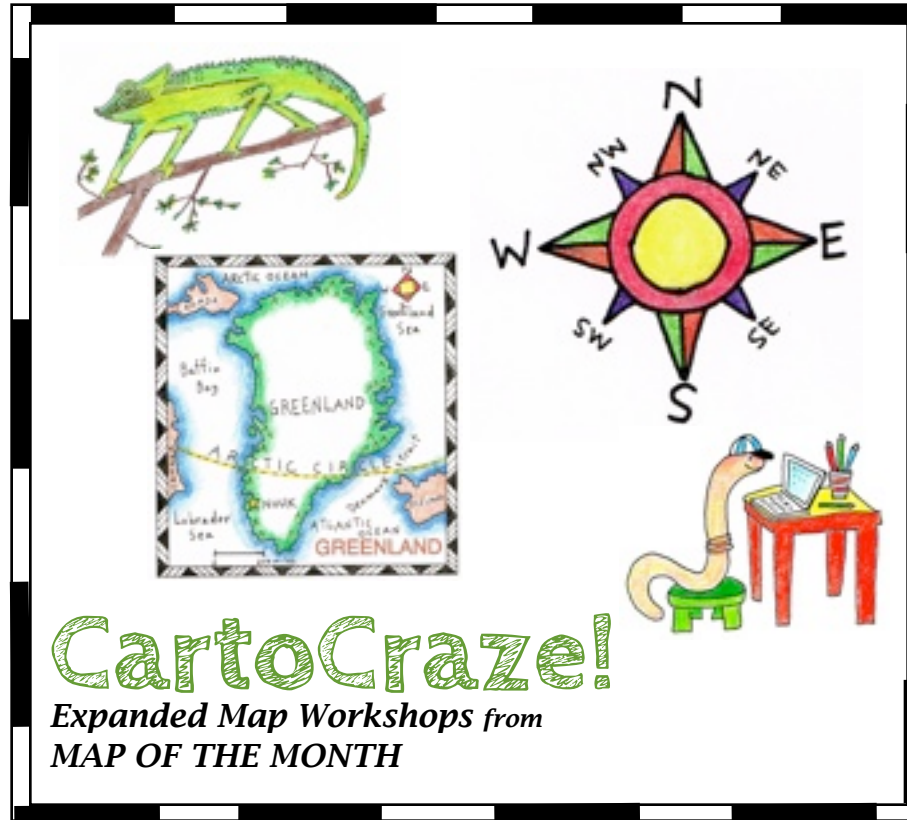


TAKLAMAKAN DESERT



CartoCraze!

Expanded Map Workshops

This PDF file of the TAKLAMAKAN DESERT is

© Copyright 2015, Map of the Month

P. O. Box 2484

Providence, RI 02906

888 876 6277

www.mapsfortheclassroom.com

DESERT

The surface of a desert can be formed of sand, ice, small stones or large rocks.

The definition of a desert is that it receives less than 10 inches of precipitation a year: that precipitation can be either rain or snow.

Deserts are the driest places on Earth. Even though we tend to think of deserts as torrid sand covered locations, these geographic areas can also be bitterly cold.

Humans have always found it challenging to live in desert environments, and have lived at the outer edges of many deserts where agriculture and raising of animals is possible. Often people who live in arid areas are forced to be nomads, moving from place to place to take advantage of seasonal weather. A surprising number of plants and animals have adapted to the harsh inhospitable conditions of both hot and cold deserts.

DESERT TERMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS

These terms and their definitions will help you to understand some of the aspect of desert areas.

DESERT A region that receives very low amounts of precipitation.

HOT DESERT A region with very high temperatures, a great deal of evaporation of moisture, and often high winds, conditions that are inhospitable for life.

COLD DESERTS

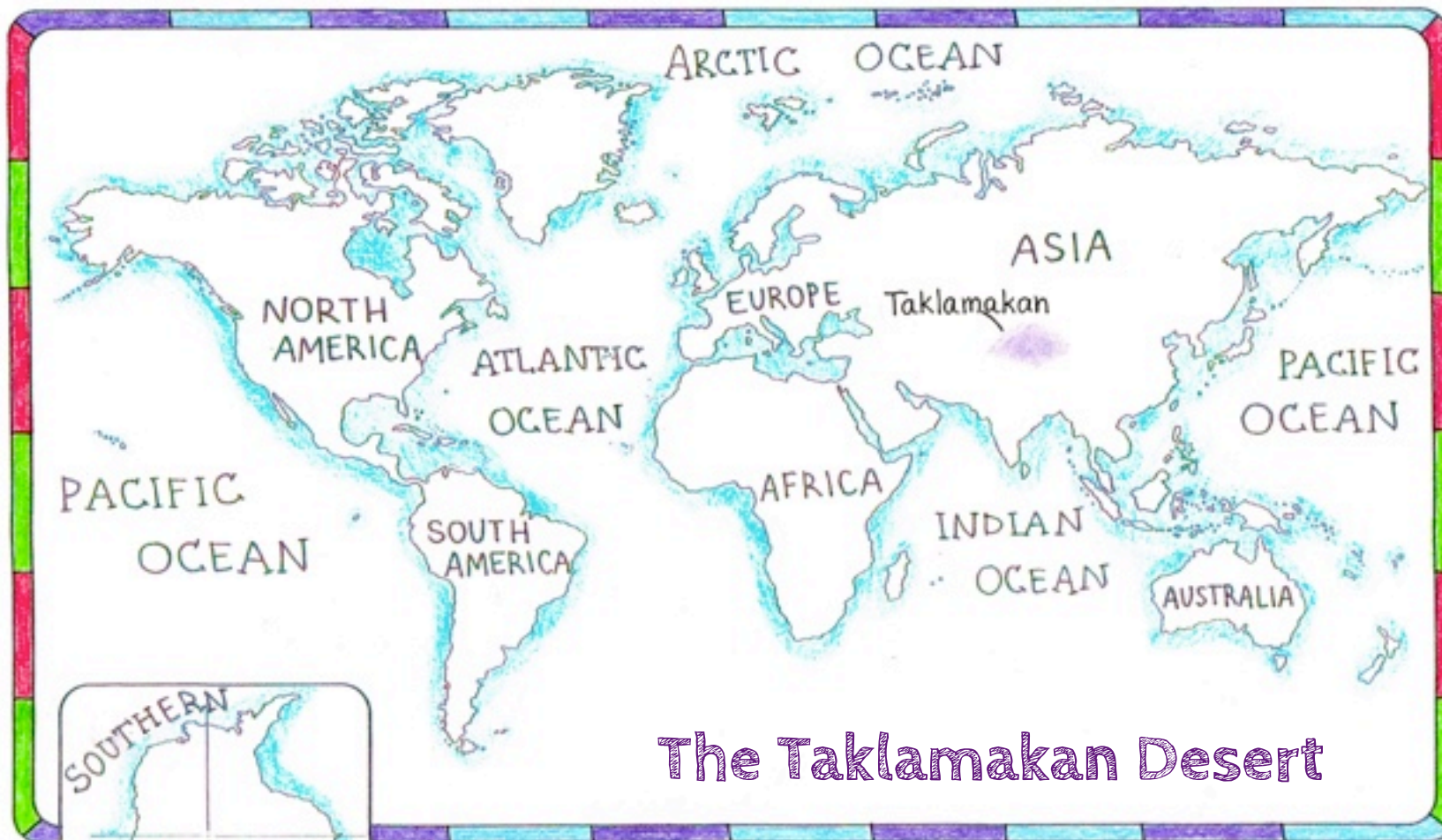
1. A **COLD DESERT** region is often separated from the ocean or body of water by a mountain range which blocks weather systems that produce moisture. The area beyond the mountain range remains very dry. Often this is called a "Rain Shadow" and can affect cold as well as hot deserts.
2. A **POLAR DESERT** has moisture carried away by high winds and there are snow dunes instead of sand dunes.

SAND Small dry particles of minerals and rock that are part of many hot deserts which form dunes.

DUNE Masses of sand or snow that are moved and shaped by weather, wind and gravity.

The following presentation is an introduction to the **TAKLAMAKAN DESERT**, one of Earth's great deserts, with some information about mapping, geography, people and animals of its surrounding area.





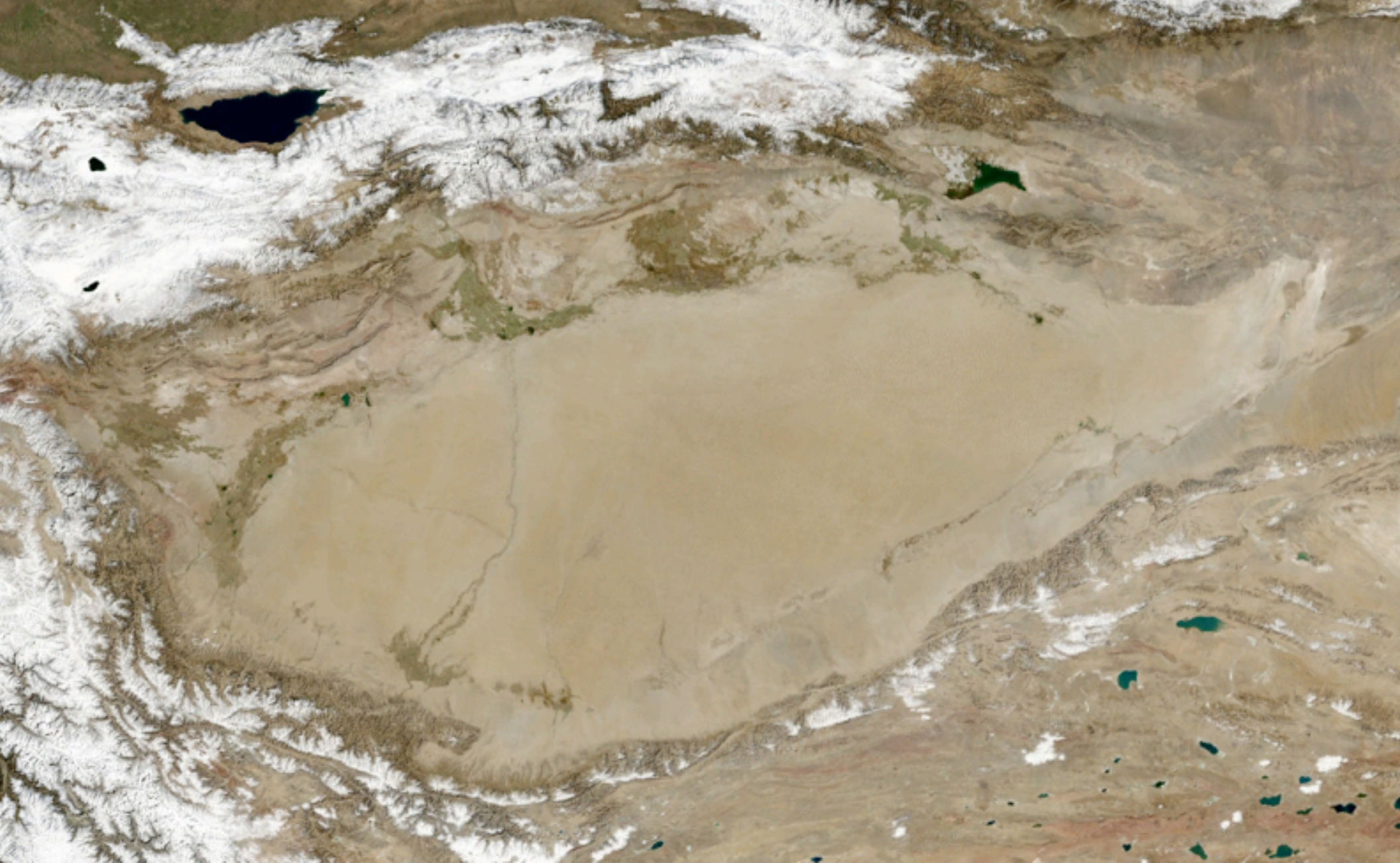
The Taklamakan Desert

This great desert is located in the northwest China, to the south of the Tian Shan Mountains. The Gobi Desert lies to its east. Unlike the rocky Gobi Desert, the Taklamakan is made up of eighty-five per cent shifting sand.

It is a cold desert.

Early traders on the Silk Road created routes both north and south of the Taklamakan Desert.

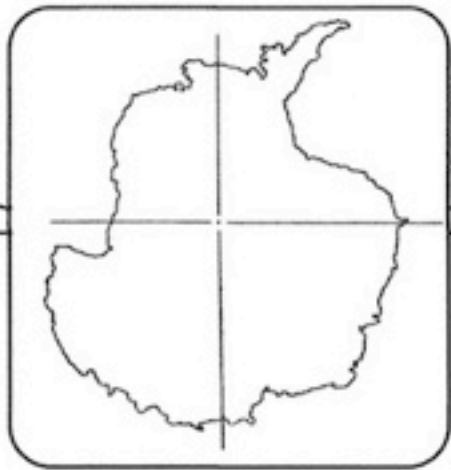
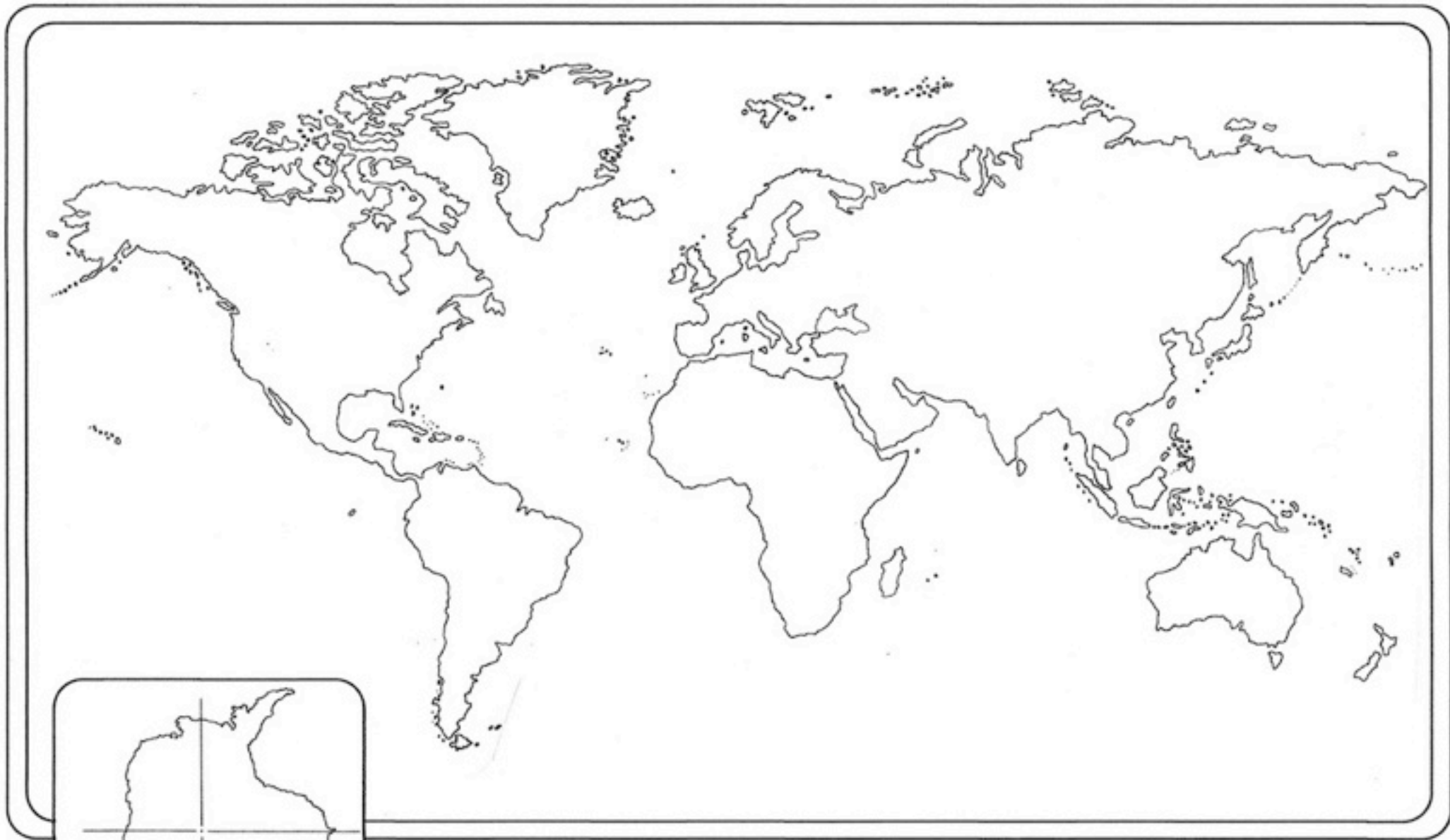
This desert's name is spelled several ways: Taklimakan and Teklimakan, and sometimes the name is divided into two words: Takli Maken. A possible definition for the name is "place of ruins" from the ancient Asian Turkic people's language, but no one is certain.



FROM THE SKY!

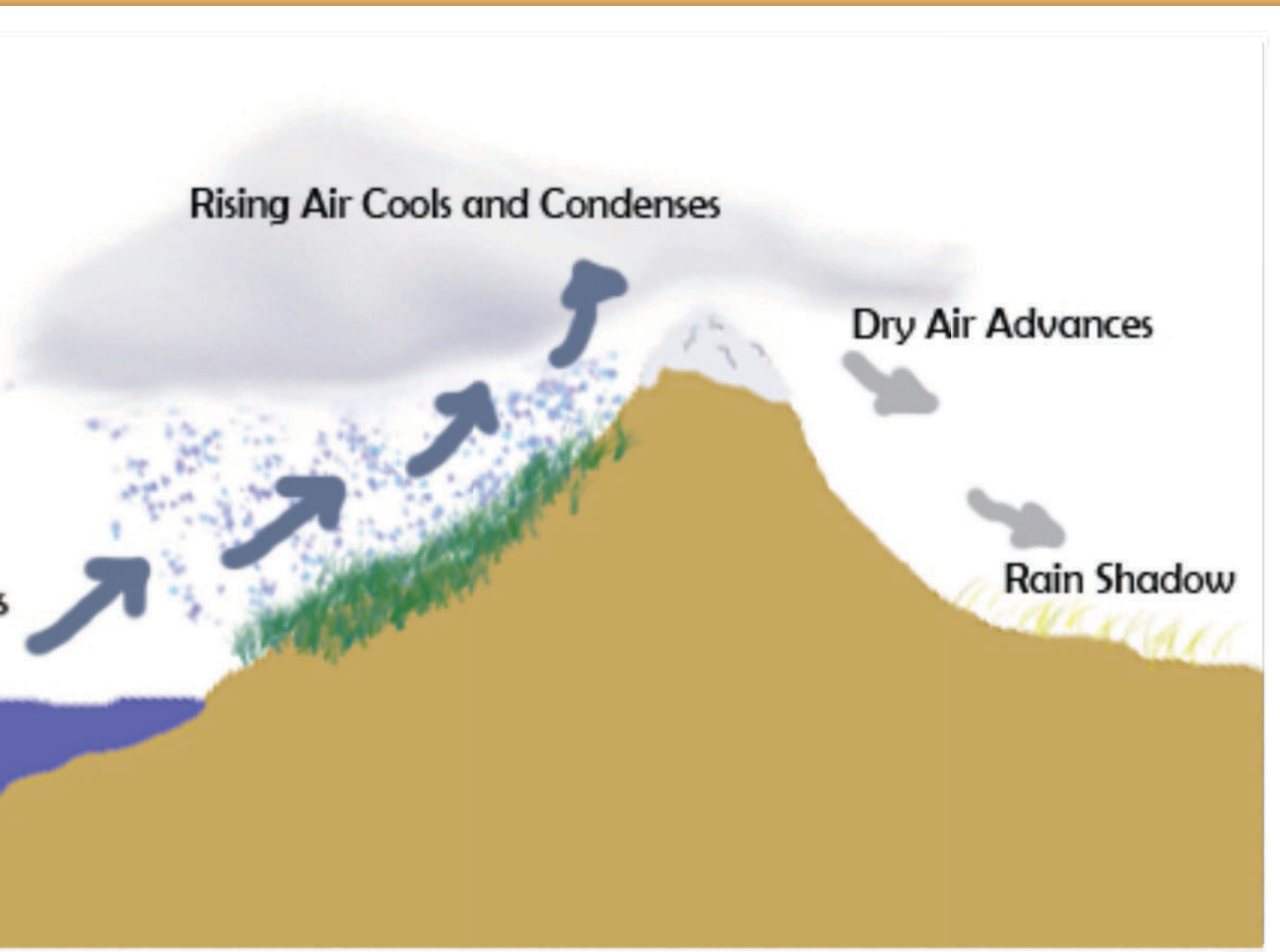


This NASA satellite image shows the perimeters of the Taklamakan Desert. We can see the snow capped mountains peaks of the Tian Shan, Kunlun and Pamir Mountain Ranges that are located around the north, west and south perimeters of the desert.



DESERTS

DRY AND COLD!



One of the reasons
TAKLAMAKEN DESERT
is extremely dry is
because of the
RAIN SHADOW EFFECT.

This huge desert area is separated from the moisture of the west by the Himalayan Mountains.

Moisture that drifts towards the mountains condenses before it can reach the other side of the mountains.

The area beyond the mountains remains very dry.

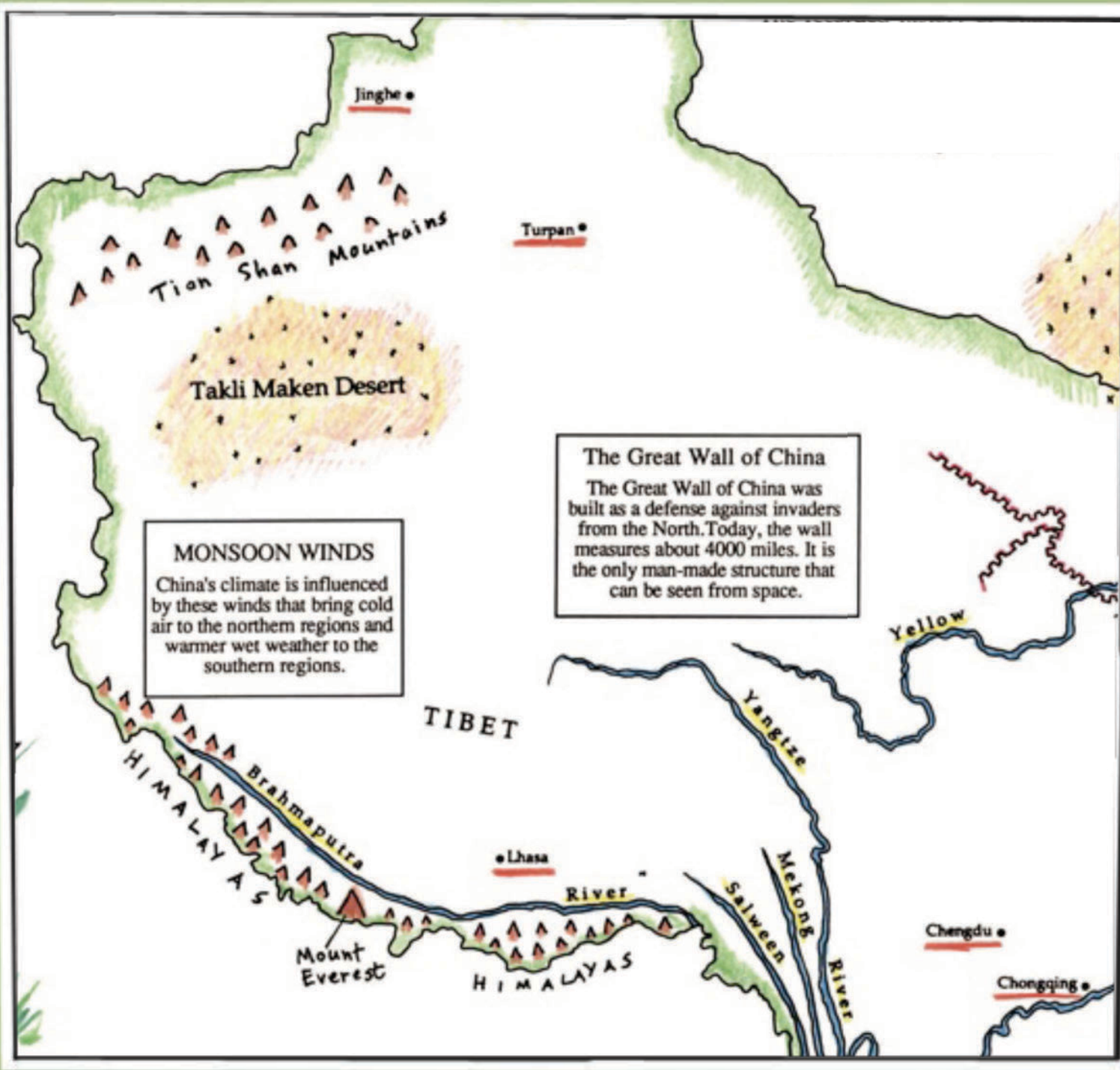
The Taklamaken is close to the subarctic Siberian area of Russia so this contributes to making the both dry and extremely cold.

ON THE MAP!

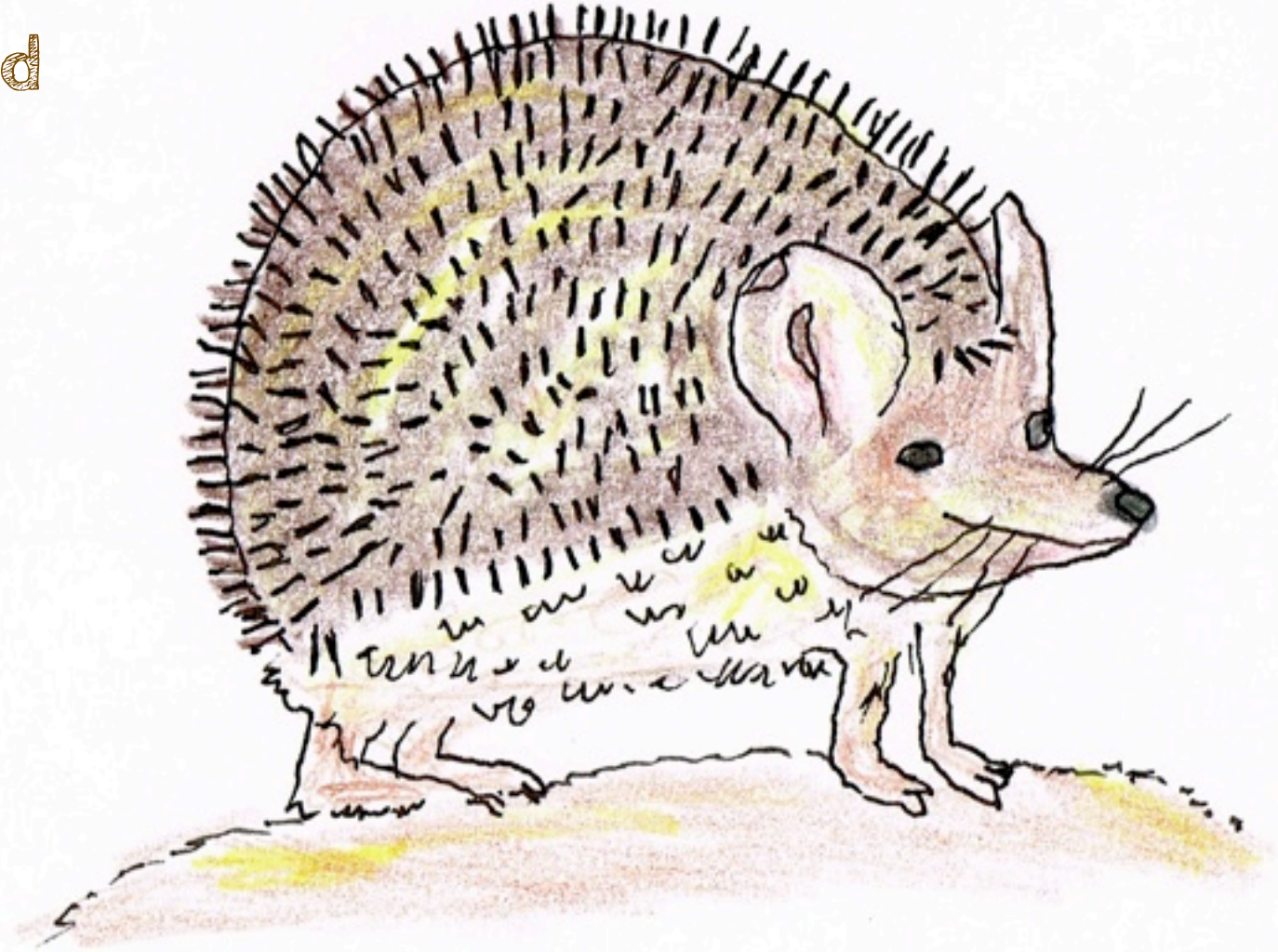


This is a cropped section of our full map of CHINA: see the full map on the last page of this file.

Here you can see the positioning of the Taklamakan Desert in relation to the northern mountain range and the rivers to the south and southeast.



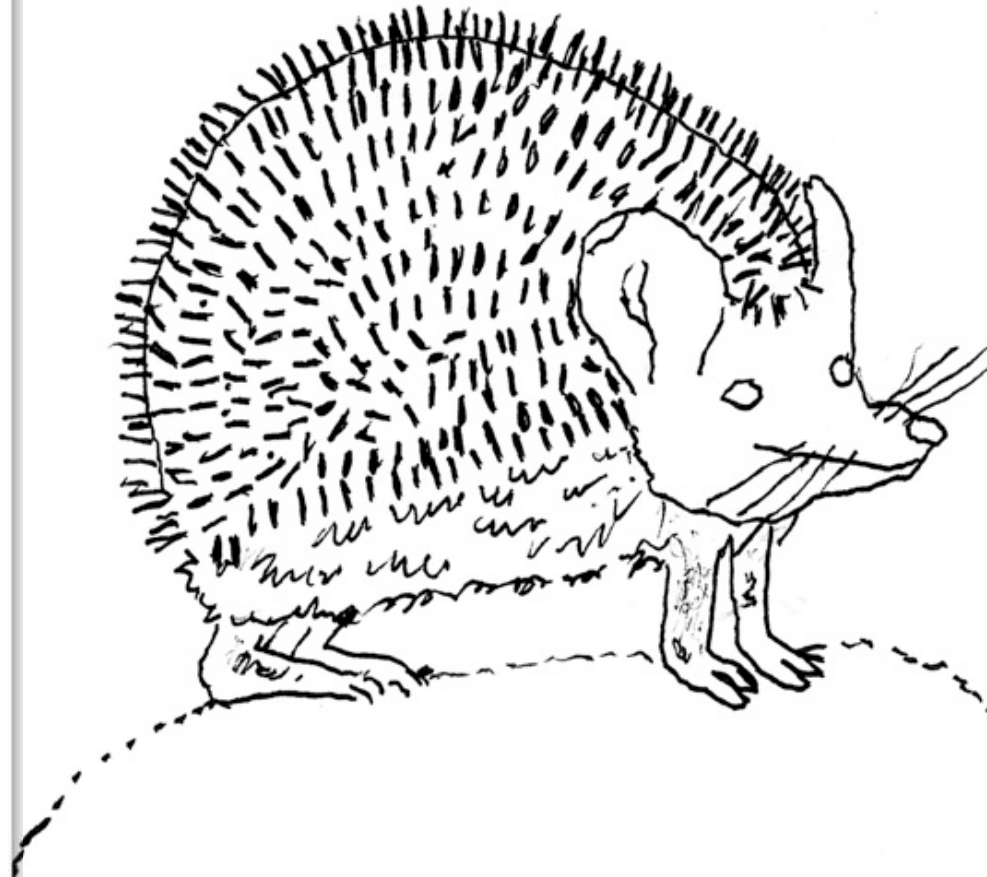
Long-eared Hedgehog



The long eared hedgehog is found in parts of Europe and Asia, including the Taklamaken Desert. These hedgehogs can be characterized by their long ears, which contribute to their great sense of hearing. Along with their hearing, their sense of smell is also highly developed. Their senses allow them to survive by helping them escape from predators as well as finding food. These hedgehogs are insectivorous, meaning they eat primarily insects. To protect themselves from predators, they can roll up into a ball, making their many spines stand on end. These hedgehogs are born with very few spines, but within hours they have tripled. It only takes 2 weeks for a this hedgehog to grow the 5,000 quills that cover its back.

Long Eared
Hedgehog
SPELLING

native
burrows
parasite
plague
spines
curl
insectivore
hibernation
snout
hiss
nocturnal
insectivorous
hearing
smell
detect
protection
outrun
pale
stiff
snuffle
growl

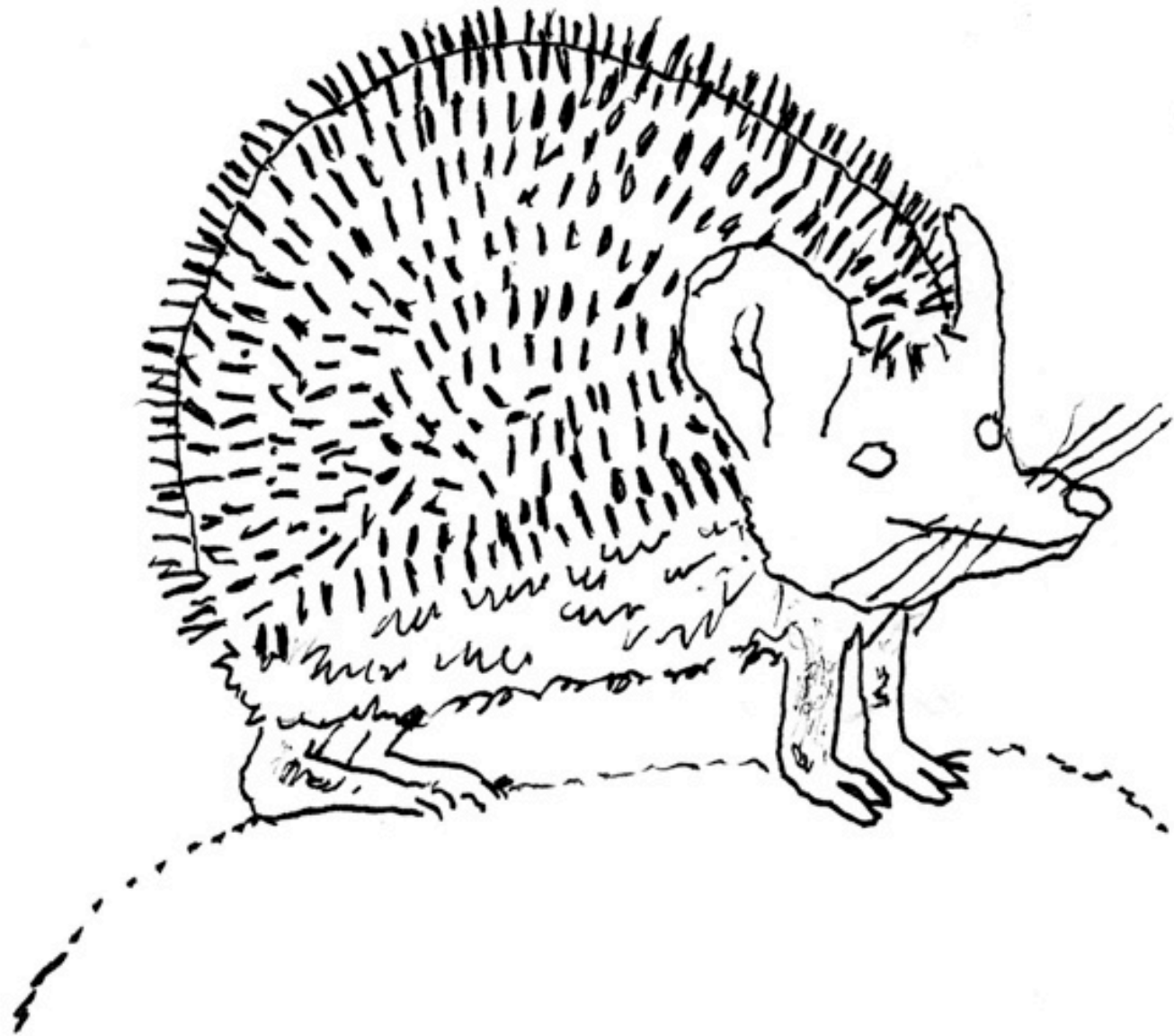


Long-eared hedgehog

Long Eared
Hedgehog
VOCABULARY

insectivorous
spines
armor
protective (spines)
snuffle
vocalization
hiss
growl
arid
quick
hibernation
burrows
steppe
parasites
pouch





Long-eared hedgehog

Water is very scarce in the Taklamakan Desert....

In the days of the Silk Road, cities that were built around **OASES** of the desert were stopping points for traders to gather supplies and much needed water. Some of these



OASIS CITIES!

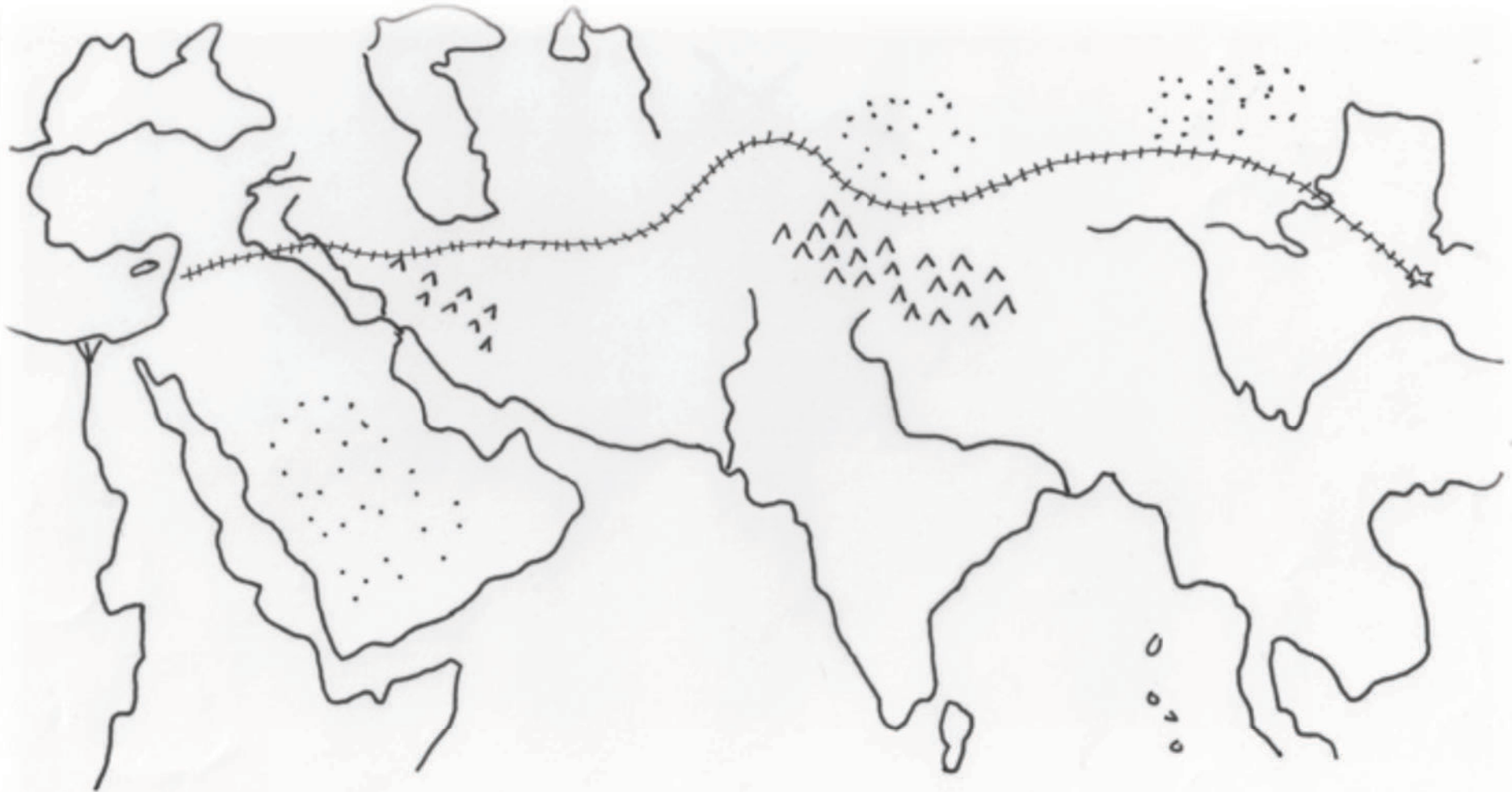
Here we can see the ancient abandoned ruins of the **OASIS** city of Gaochang on the northern route of the Silk Road.



What were the names of other cities along the north and south routes of the Silk Road, along the Takalmaken Desert?

SILK ROAD

This map shows the route traders along the SILK ROAD traveled south of the Taklamakan Desert, and to the south of the Gobi Desert. Do some research to be able to draw in the route traders took north of the Taklamakan Desert, through Mongolia.



Label the SILK ROAD and color RED.

Label these bodies of water and shade with BLUE: Indian Ocean Red Sea Mediterranean

Ganges River Indus River Caspian Sea Yellow River Yangtze River

Mark the city of Chang-an mark with a star and label it.

The Kumtag Desert is a part of the Taklamakan Desert, near Dunhuang, in western China.

Dunhuang is still a thriving city and was also a stopping point on the Silk Road in the past.

Shifting sands are a problem in this area and the huge dunes in this picture proves why!

SHIFTING SANDS...



Sand and dunes can easily shift due to the power of wind.

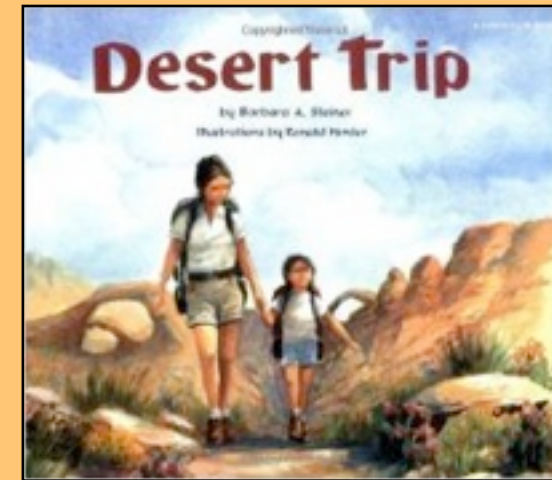
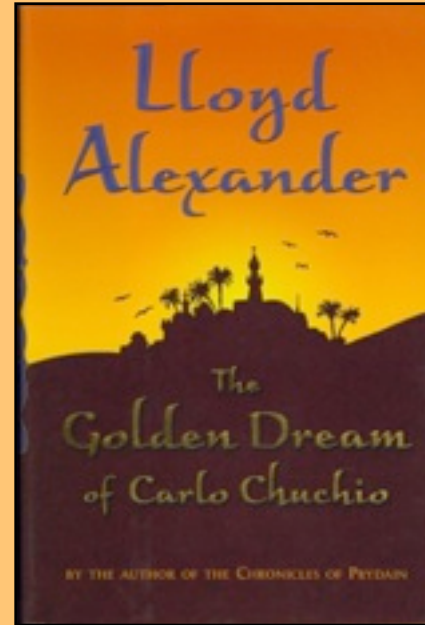
It is very difficult to build roads and train tracks in desert areas where they might be covered by shifting sand.

DESERT READING!

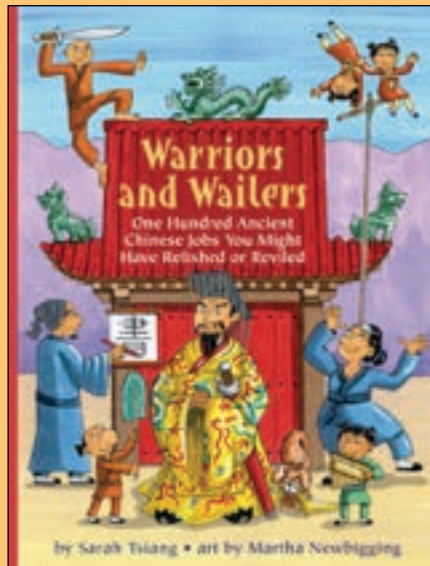


The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio

by Lloyd Alexander
The young adventurer Carlo Chuchio encounters many curious people while seeking hidden treasure on the Road of Golden Dreams in the desert. With Baksheesh, the world's worst camel-puller, Carlo leads a caravan through the realm of Keshavar and risks his life for a prize that may not even exist.



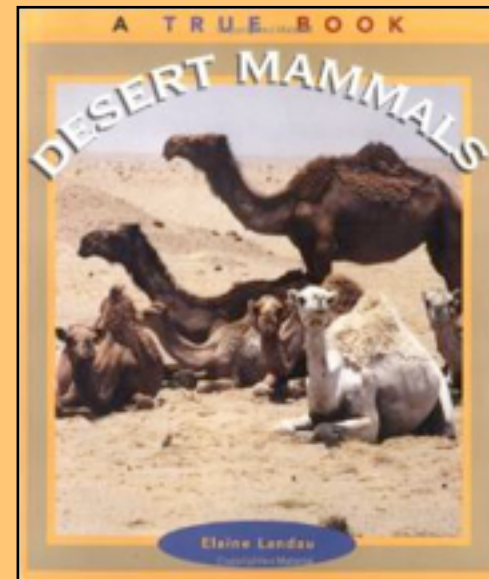
A girl and her mother plan a walking trip through the southwestern desert of the USA.



WARRIORS AND WAILERS: ONE HUNDRED ANCIENT CHINESE JOBS YOU MIGHT HAVE RELISHED OR REVEILED

by Sarah Tsiang

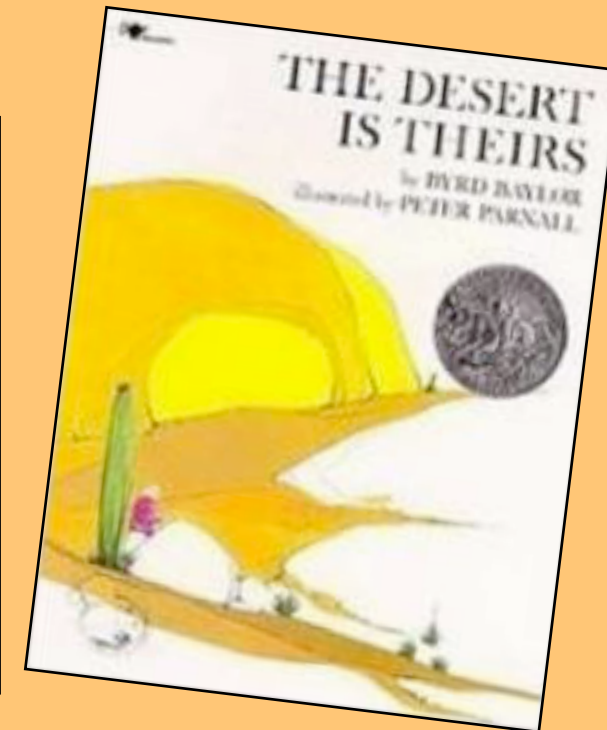
A fact-filled introduction, index, and timeline make this book perfect for research projects, while the humorous illustrations keep it fun!



DESERT MAMMALS

by Elaine Landau

Students can learn more about all the animals that thrive in desert environments.

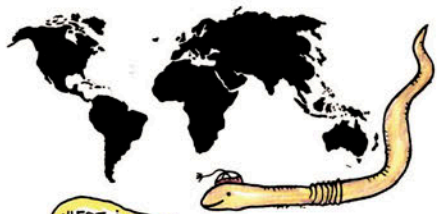


THE DESERT IS THEIRS

by Byrd Baylor

A prize-winner that describes flora and fauna of the southwestern American desert.

MAP of the MONTH



WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE?

Earthworm was born in 1992, the Year of the Monkey. According to Chinese folklore, this means he is intelligent and full of enthusiasm! With a little research, you can find out what year you were born in, and what that means according to the Chinese animal signs.



Perhaps the most famous Chinese animal is the Giant Panda. It looks like a black and white bear, but it is really a member of the raccoon family. In Chinese it is xiongmao, or bear-cat.

Pandas live in mountainous regions in China, feeding mostly on bamboo leaves and shoots. Unfortunately, bamboo groves are shrinking in size, and so are the numbers of Giant Pandas. Pandas also don't breed very often.

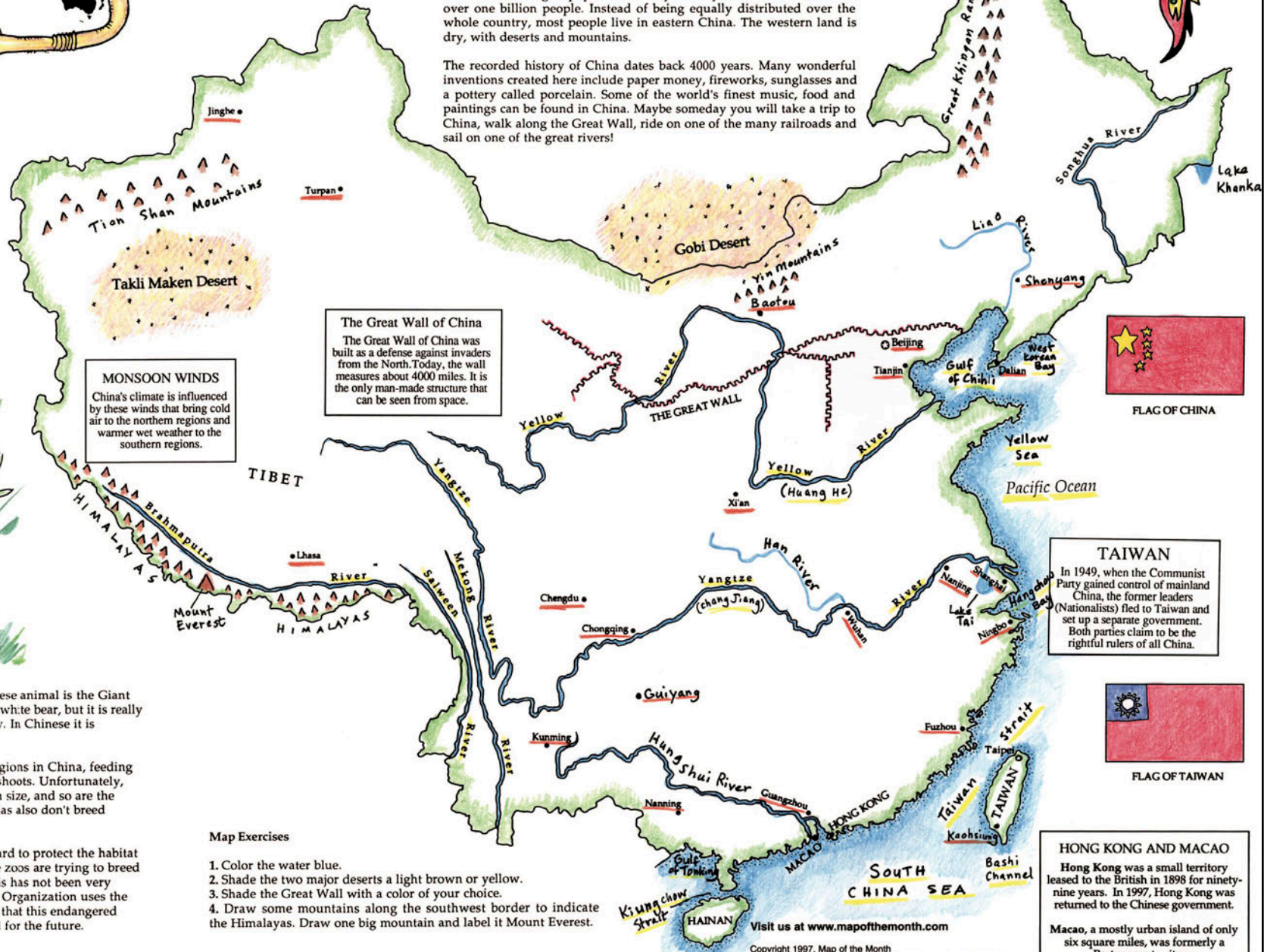
Environmentalists are trying hard to protect the habitat of this wonderful animal. Some zoos are trying to breed the animals in captivity, but this has not been very successful. The World Wildlife Organization uses the Panda as its symbol, with hope that this endangered animal and others can be saved for the future.



Welcome to China! China is a large country in the northeast corner of the continent of Asia. In the east, China is bordered by the East China Sea and the countries of North and South Korea. China is separated from India and Nepal in the southwest by the natural boundary of the Himalayan mountain range. China has many large rivers. The Yangtze, in eastern China, is the third largest river in the world.

China has the largest population of any country in the world. There are over one billion people. Instead of being equally distributed over the whole country, most people live in eastern China. The western land is dry, with deserts and mountains.

The recorded history of China dates back 4000 years. Many wonderful inventions created here include paper money, fireworks, sunglasses and a pottery called porcelain. Some of the world's finest music, food and paintings can be found in China. Maybe someday you will take a trip to China, walk along the Great Wall, ride on one of the many railroads and sail on one of the great rivers!



The Great Wall of China
The Great Wall of China was built as a defense against invaders from the North. Today, the wall measures about 4000 miles. It is the only man-made structure that can be seen from space.

MONSOON WINDS
China's climate is influenced by these winds that bring cold air to the northern regions and warmer wet weather to the southern regions.



FLAG OF CHINA

TAIWAN
In 1949, when the Communist Party gained control of mainland China, the former leaders (Nationalists) fled to Taiwan and set up a separate government. Both parties claim to be the rightful rulers of all China.



FLAG OF TAIWAN

HONG KONG AND MACAO
Hong Kong was a small territory leased to the British in 1898 for ninety-nine years. In 1997, Hong Kong was returned to the Chinese government. Macao, a mostly urban island of only six square miles, was formerly a Portuguese territory.

Map Exercises

1. Color the water blue.
2. Shade the two major deserts a light brown or yellow.
3. Shade the Great Wall with a color of your choice.
4. Draw some mountains along the southwest border to indicate the Himalayas. Draw one big mountain and label it Mount Everest.

Visit us at www.mapofthemoonth.com

Copyright 1997, Map of the Month
East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484, Providence, RI 02906-0484

WORLD EXPLORERS

ROUTES OF THE EXPLORERS

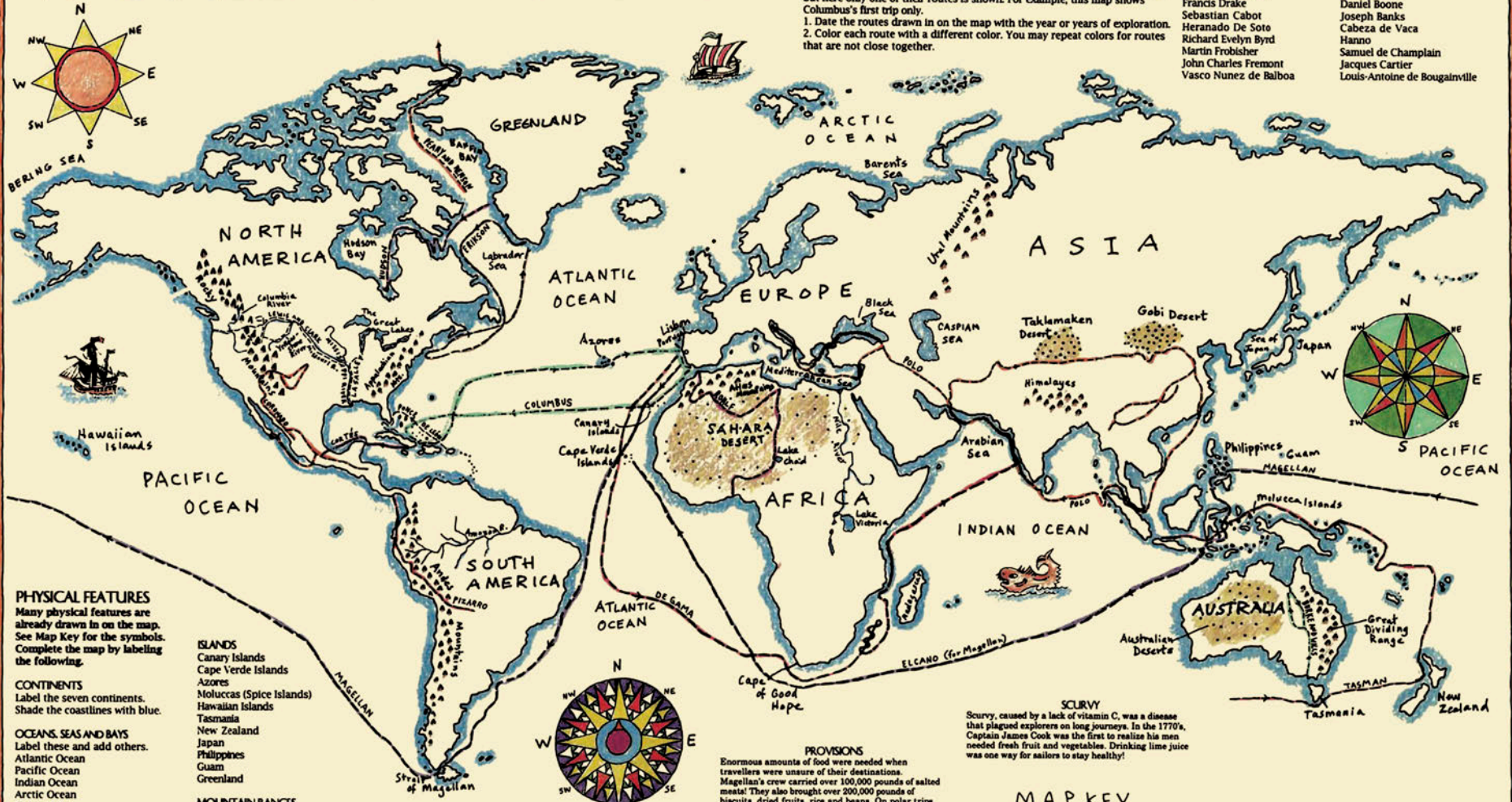
The routes of some explorers have been drawn on this map. The reverse side of this map gives a detailed description of each of the routes shown here. Each route has the explorer's name on it. Some explorers made many voyages, but here only one of their routes is shown. For example, this map shows Columbus's first trip only.

1. Date the routes drawn in on the map with the year or years of exploration.
2. Color each route with a different color. You may repeat colors for routes that are not close together.

MORE EXPLORERS

Here is a list of other explorers. Research some of them and add their routes to your map.

Ibn Battuta	Alexander the Great
Vitus Jonasson Bering	Edmund Hillary
Ernest Shackleton	James Cook
Francis Drake	Daniel Boone
Sebastian Cabot	Joseph Banks
Heranado De Soto	Cabeza de Vaca
Richard Evelyn Byrd	Hanno
Martin Frobisher	Samuel de Champlain
John Charles Fremont	Jacques Cartier
Vasco Nunez de Balboa	Louis-Antoine de Bougainville



PHYSICAL FEATURES
Many physical features are already drawn in on the map. See Map Key for the symbols. Complete the map by labeling the following.

CONTINENTS
Label the seven continents. Shade the coastlines with blue.

OCEANS, SEAS AND BAYS
Label these and add others.

- Atlantic Ocean
- Pacific Ocean
- Indian Ocean
- Arctic Ocean
- Caspian Sea
- Baffin Bay
- Hudson Bay
- Barents Sea
- Bering Sea
- Arabian Sea

LANDMARKS
Label these and add others.

- Straits of Magellan
- Cape of Good Hope
- Lisbon, Portugal

RIVERS AND LAKES
Label. Color blue.

- Mississippi
- Amazon
- Columbia
- Nile
- Yellowstone
- Missouri
- Lake Victoria
- The Great Lakes
- Lake Chad

ISLANDS
Label these and add others.

- Canary Islands
- Cape Verde Islands
- Azores
- Moluccas (Spice Islands)
- Hawaiian Islands
- Tasmania
- New Zealand
- Japan
- Philippines
- Guam
- Greenland

MOUNTAIN RANGES
Label. Shade brown and green.

- Rocky Mountains
- Andes Mountains
- Himalayas
- Great Dividing Range
- Ural Mountains
- Atlas Mountains
- Appalachian Mountains

DESERTS
Label. Shade tan or brown.

- Sahara
- Australian
- Gobi
- Taklamakan

ADDITIONAL DETAILS
Color the decorative border. Color the compass roses. Color the illustrations. Add other symbols to the MAP KEY, if you wish.

EARLY MAPS

Early maps were like pictures of what people imagined the world might be. The earliest known map was made in 600 B.C. by the Babylonians. This carved clay tablet had a symbol for Babylon at the center of a circle. The outer edges of the map suggested unknown lands.

The Greeks were the first to make maps that described what the world actually was, rather than based on legend. In 150 A.D. Ptolemy of Alexandria gathered all of the information that was known from Greek and Roman travels and filled in over 8,000 place names. His maps described a huge area, from Britain in the north, to northern Africa in the south, and east to China and Southeast Asia. Often a mapmaker went with expeditions to record the routes and to describe areas of land. Christopher Columbus travelled with his brother, Bartolomeo, a mapmaker.

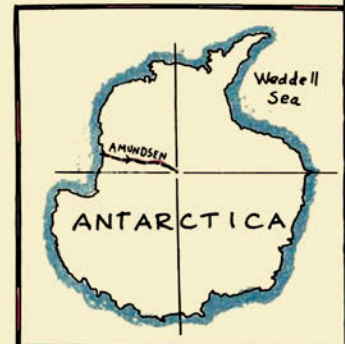
Some maps had illustrations of sea monsters—travellers were fearful of the unknown! Maps showed exaggerated shapes for lands now known. The contours of lands were often guessed at—California was often drawn as a separate island. Longitude and latitude weren't calculated until 1735 when the chronometer was invented. This clock-like device helped navigators know exactly where they were.

PROVISIONS
Enormous amounts of food were needed when travellers were unsure of their destinations. Magellan's crew carried over 100,000 pounds of salted meats! They also brought over 200,000 pounds of biscuits, dried fruits, rice and beans. On polar trips, food for dogs was needed too!

SCURVY
Scurvy, caused by a lack of vitamin C, was a disease that plagued explorers on long journeys. In the 1770's, Captain James Cook was the first to realize his men needed fresh fruit and vegetables. Drinking lime juice was one way for sailors to stay healthy!

MAP KEY

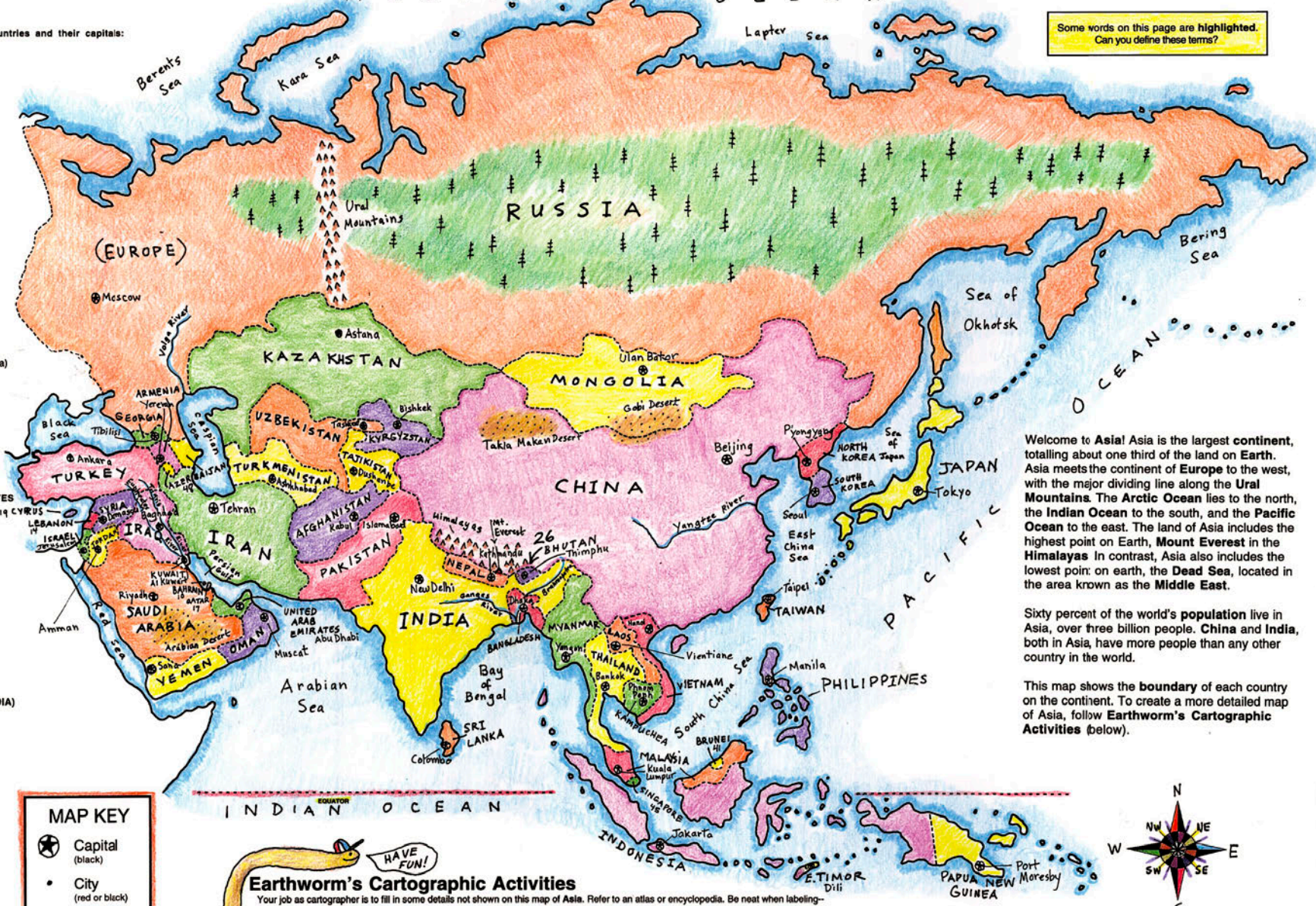
- MOUNTAIN RANGE
- DESERT
- RIVER, LAKE
- EXPLORERS' ROUTES



Some words on this page are highlighted. Can you define these terms?

Here is a list of Asian countries and their capitals:

- 1 RUSSIA
Moscow
- 2 KAZAKHSTAN
Astana
- 3 UZBEKISTAN
Tashkent
- 4 TURKMENISTAN
Ashkhabad
- 5 KYRGYZSTAN
Bishkek
- 6 TAJIKISTAN
Dushanbe
- 7 IRAN
Tehran
- 8 JORDAN
Amman
- 9 KUWAIT
Al Kuwait
- 10 SAUDI ARABIA
Riyadh
- 11 OMAN
Muscat
- 12 SAUDI ARABIA
Riyadh
- 13 TURKEY
Ankara
- 14 LEBANON
Beirut
- 15 EGYPT (Sinal Peninsula)
Cairo
- 16 ISRAEL
Jerusalem
- 17 QATAR
Doha
- 18 IRAQ
Bagdad
- 19 CYPRUS
Nicosia
- 20 SYRIA
Damascus
- 21 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Abu Dhabi
- 22 YEMEN
Sana'
- 23 PAKISTAN
Islamabad
- 24 NEPAL
Kathmandu
- 25 INDIA
New Delhi
- 26 BHUTAN
Thimphu
- 27 BANGLADESH
Dhaka
- 28 AFGHANISTAN
Kabul
- 29 SRI LANKA
Colombo
- 30 KAMPUCHEA (CAMBODIA)
Phnom Penh
- 31 MYANMAR
Yangon
- 32 LAOS
Vientiane
- 33 THAILAND
Bangkok
- 34 VIETNAM
Hanoi
- 35 CHINA
Beijing
- 36 MONGOLIA
Ulan Bator
- 37 NORTH KOREA
Pyongyang
- 38 SOUTH KOREA
Seoul
- 39 JAPAN
Tokyo
- 40 TAIWAN
Taipei
- 41 BRUNEI
Bandar Seri Begawan
- 42 INDONESIA
Jakarta
- 43 MALAYSIA
Kuala Lumpur
- 44 PHILIPPINES
Manila
- 45 SINGAPORE
Singapore City
- 46 PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Port Moresby
- 47 ARMENIA
Yerevan
- 48 AZERBAIJAN
Baku
- 49 GEORGIA
Tbilisi
- 50 EAST TIMOR
Dili



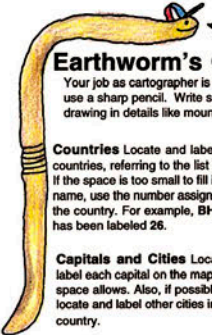
Welcome to Asia! Asia is the largest continent, totalling about one third of the land on Earth. Asia meets the continent of Europe to the west, with the major dividing line along the Ural Mountains. The Arctic Ocean lies to the north, the Indian Ocean to the south, and the Pacific Ocean to the east. The land of Asia includes the highest point on Earth, Mount Everest in the Himalayas. In contrast, Asia also includes the lowest point on earth, the Dead Sea, located in the area known as the Middle East.

Sixty percent of the world's population live in Asia, over three billion people. China and India, both in Asia, have more people than any other country in the world.

This map shows the boundary of each country on the continent. To create a more detailed map of Asia, follow Earthworm's Cartographic Activities (below).

MAP KEY

- Capital (black)
- City (red or black)
- Mountains (brown or green)
- Desert (light brown)
- Forest (green)
- River (blue)



Earthworm's Cartographic Activities

Your job as cartographer is to fill in some details not shown on this map of Asia. Refer to an atlas or encyclopedia. Be neat when labeling—use a sharp pencil. Write small, always print. Refer to the Map Key for symbols and suggested colors. Colored pencils work best when drawing in details like mountains or rivers. When filling in areas with color, shade very lightly so you don't obscure other features.

Countries Locate and label countries, referring to the list at left. If the space is too small to fill in the name, use the number assigned to the country. For example, BHUTAN has been labeled 26.

Capitals and Cities Locate and label each capital on the map, if space allows. Also, if possible, locate and label other cities in each country.

Oceans and Seas With blue, shade along the coastline of the oceans and seas. Label: Arctic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean. With smaller letters, label: Caspian Sea, Red Sea, Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, South China Sea, East China Sea, Sea of Japan, Bering Sea.

Major Rivers Draw in and label the following major rivers: Volga River, Ganges River, Tigris River, Euphrates River, Brahmaputra River, Yangtze River.

Mountains Draw in and label these ranges: Himalayas, Ural Mountains. Locate Mount Everest. Add other smaller ranges too.

Forest Draw in and label the vast forest of Siberia.

Desert With a light brown pencil, shade desert regions on the map: Gobi Desert, Arabian Desert.

Decoration To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following: ASIA title, Earthworm (our mascot), Compass Rose.



ASIA

Places and Geographic Features

Map of the Month

© copyright 2005, Map of the Month
East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484
Providence, RI 02906-0484
www.mapofthemonth.com