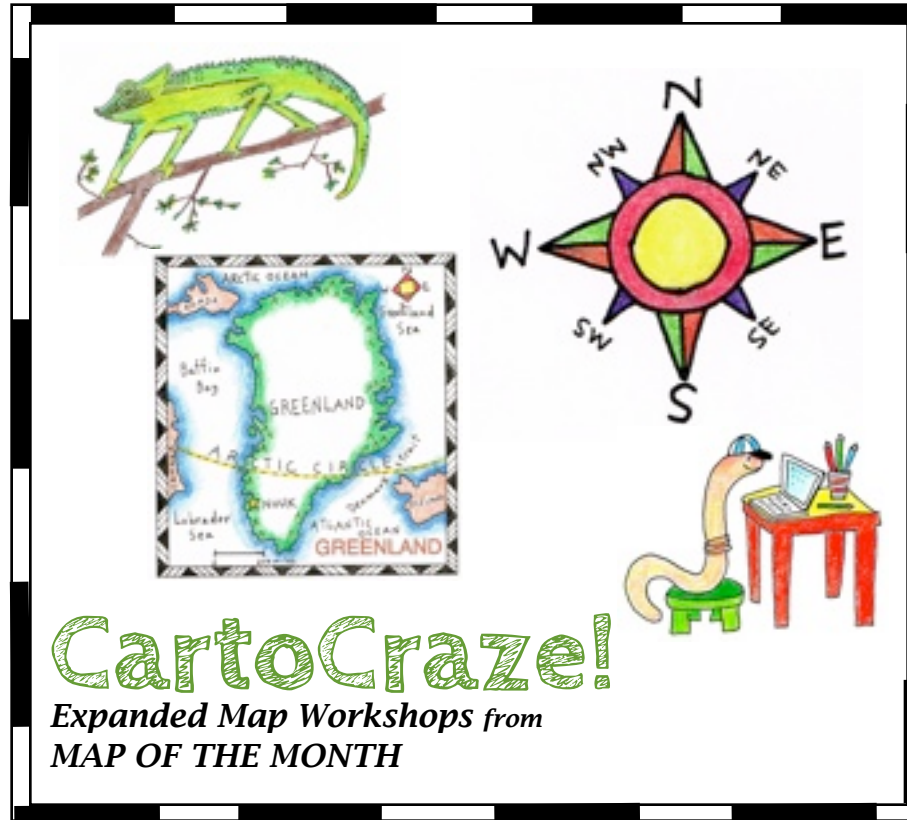


# YANGTZE RIVER



**CartoCraze!**

**Expanded Map Workshops**

This PDF file of the YANGTZE RIVER is

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# RIVERS

Throughout human time, rivers have offered the essential water that man requires for life itself, as well as a source of food. Rivers have made transportation of humans and goods possible as well as provided a source of power. With their great natural beauty, rivers have inspired writers and artists throughout time. Average people have always found peace and recreation along the banks and in the water of rivers.

Since the earliest times, humans have lived by rivers and the great civilizations have grown up around river banks. The ancient people of Egypt owed their life to the Nile, as did the generations of people who lived in Mesopotamia in the Middle East.

Today the great cities of the world are also known by their neighboring rivers. For example, Manhattan, the great North American city is flanked by two rivers: the Hudson and the East River. Paris, a city in Europe which has seen much history, sits on either side of the Seine River. In South America, the vast area of the Amazon enhances settlements of all sizes in its huge watershed.



Photo: Ansel Adams. *The Tetons and the Snake River* (1942) Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. National Archives and Records Administration, Records of the National Park Service. (79-AAG-1)

In the wilderness, rivers are no less important: they support and create ecosystems for all kinds of animals, insects and plant life.

Some rivers and the environments around them have suffered in the modern age, with industrial deposits of waste and other kinds of pollution. Sometimes the attempts to dam and redirect water has made surrounding wildlife suffer. Today environmentalists are working to restore affected rivers areas to a cleaner and more habitable state for both humans and wildlife.

# RIVER TERMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS

It is impossible to talk about rivers, or learn about them, without knowing some terms that relate to rivers.

Here are just a few terms! Can you come up with other terms?

**RIVER** A natural flowing stream, most often fresh water, that moves towards a sea, a lake, and ocean or another river.

**SOURCE** The furthest point of a river away from its mouth, at its origin or beginning.

**MOUTH** The part of a river that flows into another body of water.

**WATERSHED or DRAINAGE BASIN** An area of land where all the surface water drains into a larger body of water. Smaller streams join larger ones that eventually lead to a lake or ocean.

**ESTUARY** An area of water where a river joins the ocean. Here there is brackish water: a mix of freshwater and saline, or salty, seawater.

**FLOODING** This occurs when excess water causes a river to overflow its banks. Snow melt or extreme precipitation can cause flooding.

**DELTA** A landform that is caused by the gradual build up of sediment carried by a river where the river flows into another large body of water, like an estuary, the ocean, sea or reservoir.



The following presentation is an introduction to the YANGTZE RIVER, one of the world's great rivers, with some information about mapping, geography, and animals of its surrounding area.

# The Yangtze River

This large Chinese river, the Yangtze, is also known as Chang Jiang.

The Yangtze River has a very unique standing in comparison to other rivers. There is no river that flows in one single country that is longer than Yangtze River.

The Yangtze is also the third longest river in the world. The river flows eastward, with many large tributaries that contribute to its huge flow of water.

The Yangtze is surrounded by a third of the population of China. The largest hydroelectric plant in the world is located on the Yangtze River.

The Yangtze flows through several different topographical areas on its long course. The headwaters of the river are located in the high Tibetan mountains in the west. The river meanders down through lower mountains towards the an area of very large lakes. If finally reaches the delta at the coast of the East China Sea.



Professor Earthworm



Make a compass rose for your map by following the directions [HERE!](#)

# ON THE MAP!



This is a GLACIER in the Tanggula mountain range.

Map of Qinghai province

The Tanggula Mountains are located in the Tibetan Plateau in the Qinghai province of China. The source of the Yangtze River is located in these mountains.



## MATH MOMENT!

The Yangtze River is 6,300 kilometers long. How many MILES long is this?





The Yangtze River flows from the Tanggula Mountains to the East China Sea, which is part of the Pacific Ocean.

# ON THE MAP!



The city of Shanghai is the last major city that the Yangtze flows by in its course to the sea.

Based on **population**, Shanghai is the largest city in China.

Find a detailed map of the Yangtze River and list some other major cities that are located along its total length.



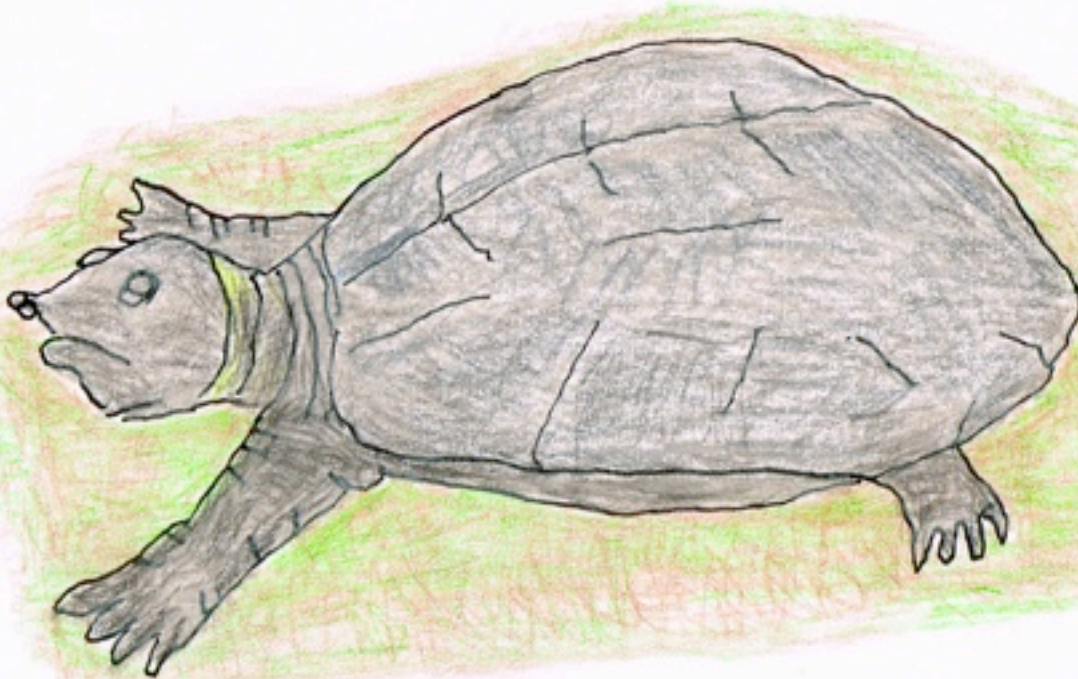
# Giant Softshell Turtle

Also known as the Yangtze Giant Turtle, this reptile is native to Asia. This rare animal is extremely close to extinction: it is actually believed that there are only 4 known to be alive in the wild. Before becoming critically endangered, it could be found in the Yangtze River and in lakes and ponds around the river.

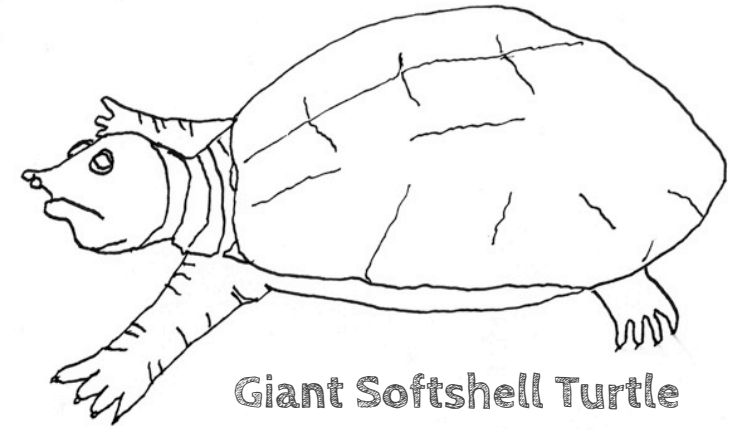
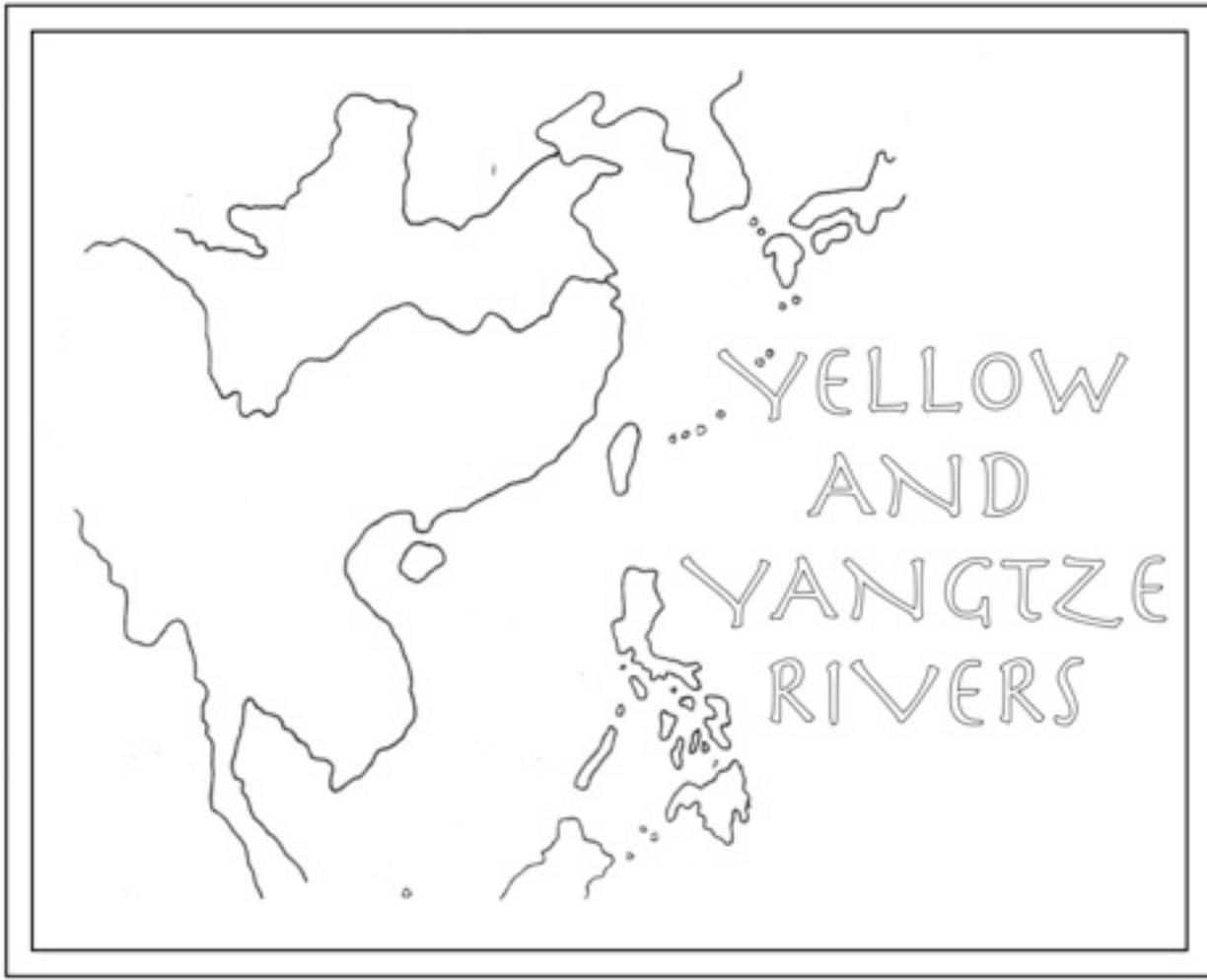
These are the largest turtles that can be found in fresh water. They can be about 3-1/2 feet long and 2-1/2 feet wide, and weighing about 150 pounds. Like other softshell turtles their shells are leathery and less rigid than other more common hardshell turtles. These turtles have speckled heads and snouts that resemble a pig. They are considered omnivorous because they feed on both plants and fish.

Some factors that have contributed to their endangerment have been habitat loss, consumption by humans, and the use of their shells for medicine.

Currently they are being heavily protected but unless they can start producing fertile eggs, they will become extinct in the near future.



I didn't know turtles could have a soft shell!



Giant Softshell Turtle

#### VOCABULARY WORDS

Turn your map over and define these words!

hydroelectric  
freshwater  
ecosystem  
longevity  
extinction  
tributary  
delta  
topographic  
gorge

#### SPELLING WORDS

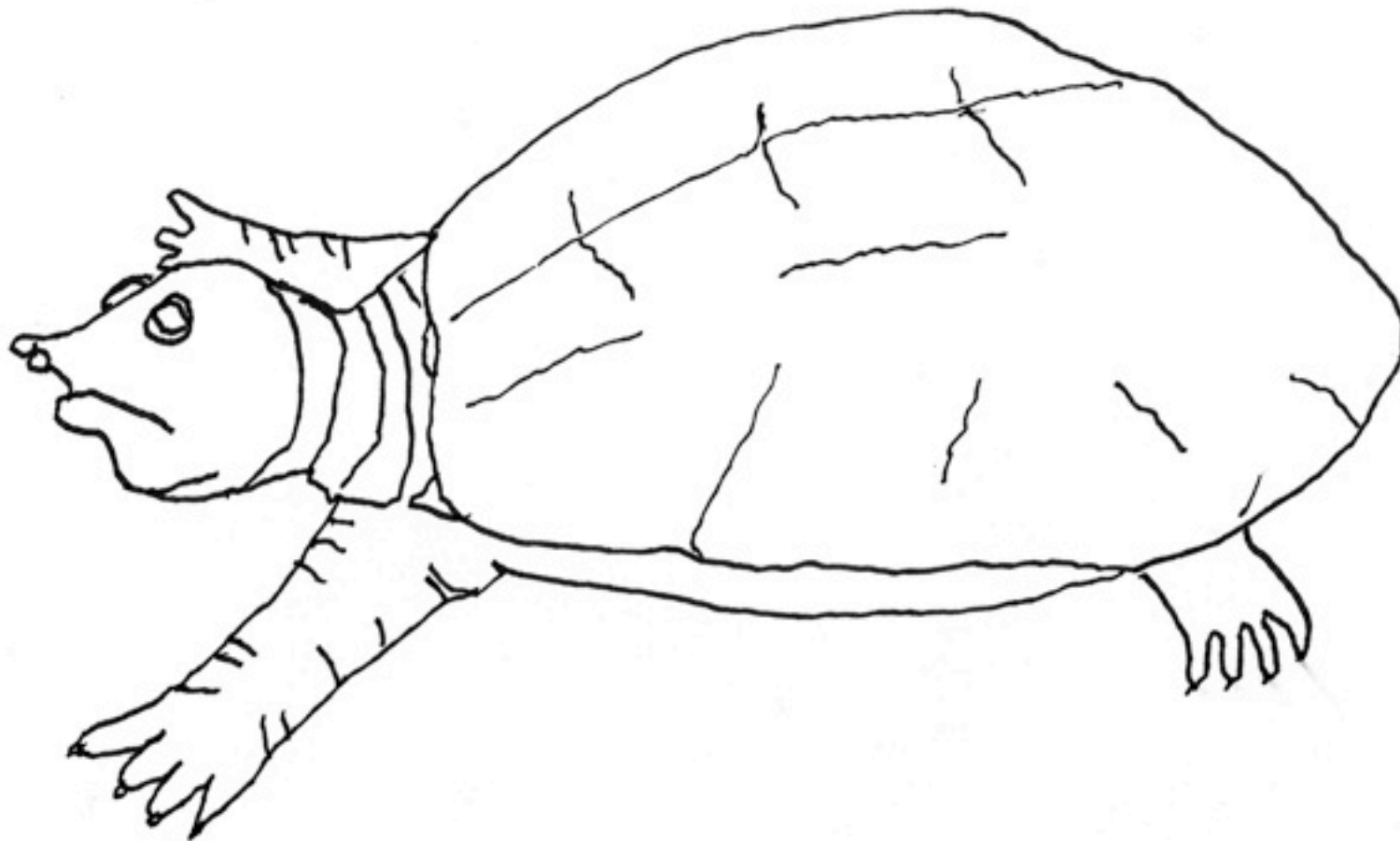
snout  
carapace  
hydroelectric  
fertile  
endangered  
contribute  
Tibetan

#### YANGTZE RIVER

PRINT THIS PAGE:

COLOR AND LABEL THE MAP, BOTH LANDFORMS AND WATER. Label both the Yangtze and the Yellow Rivers

ADD A [COMPASS ROSE](#) TO YOUR MAP! DO THE ACTIVITIES AND COLOR THE GIANT SOFTSHELL TURTLE



Giant Softshell Turtle

The Three Gorges Area of the Yangtze River is a spectacular place to visit! It is located in the Hubei Province of China.

# THREE GORGES AREA on the YANGTZE RIVER!



Photo: Tan Wei Liang Byorn [Creative Commons](#)

Photo: Carla Antonini, [Creative Commons](#)



These photos are proof of the spectacular way the Yangtze River moves in the area known as the The Three Gorges.

# FROM THE PAST!

*Travelers have always been fascinated by China. This poster from the 1930's was encouraging Western tourists to explore the beauty of China's Three Gorges area*

If you were a tourist in the 1930s, you would have had to travel to Shanghai first, to reach the Yangtze River.

If you were an American, how would you get to this famed city?  
What would your luggage look like?  
What kinds of clothes would men and women wear?

*Write an essay describing a trip of this kind, inspired by the poster and life in the 1930s!*





This dam, part of the world's largest hydroelectric plant built in this area, has been the cause of many issues that are causing problems.

**Can you write a short essay about this:**

What kinds of changes have happened in this area since the building of the plant?

Why are the citizens of the world concerned?

**The Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River is the largest hydroelectric plant in the world, and was completed in 2012.**

It produces a huge amount of electricity for the people of China. It was also hoped that the dam would help water traffic and shipping on the Yangtze River by holding up water that can cause flooding on the lower sections of the river.

**CONTROLLING THE RIVER...**

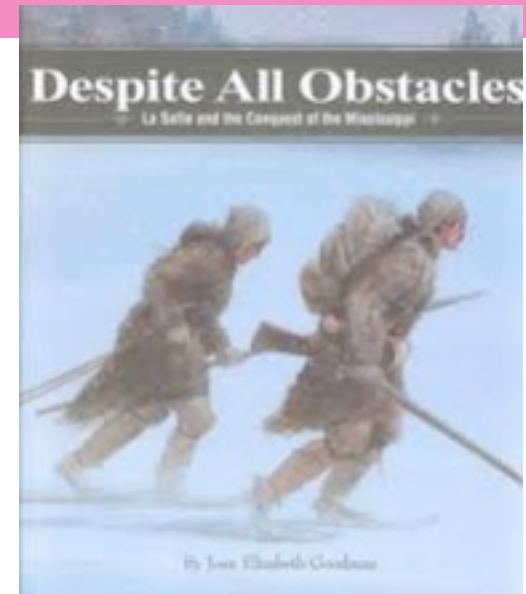
Photo: Le Grand Poetage, [Creative Commons](#).



# RIVER READING!

BOOKS ABOUT RIVER EXPEDITIONS ARE INSPIRING!

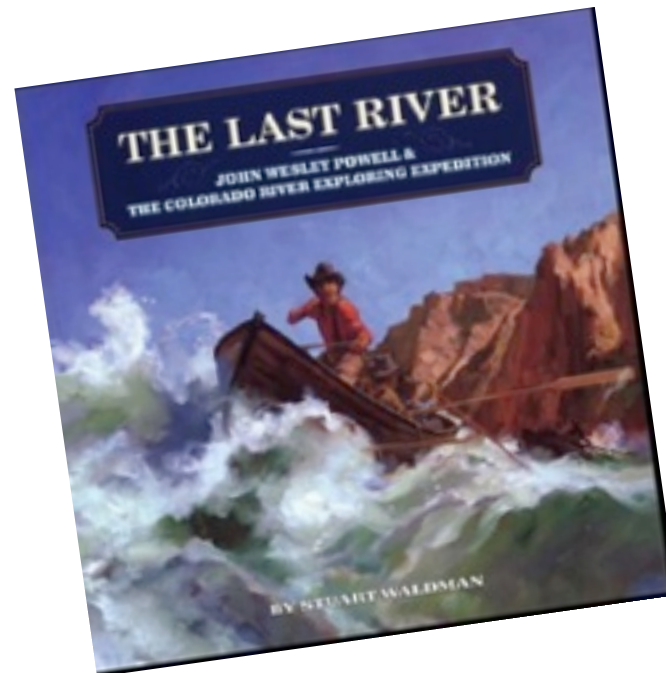
## DESPITE ALL OBSTACLES: LASALLE AND THE CONQUEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI by Joan Elizabeth Goodman



La Salle made his way from Eastern Canada to the Great Lakes traveling by canoe down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico. This vast unexplored wilderness was controlled by the fierce Iroquois. Through one setback after another, La Salle kept on going. Part adventure, part biography, this book is the fascinating story of this stubborn and courageous man!

## THE LAST RIVER: JOHN WESLEY POWELL & THE COLORADO RIVER EXPLORING EXPEDITION by Stuart Waldman

This book is an inspiring adventure that brings history to life. Major John Wesley Powell was a small, bookish, one-armed geology professor. Powell's twin passions -- adventure and scientific exploration -- drew him to the Colorado River. Excerpts from journals of crew members personalize the gripping text. Original paintings and a fold-out map allows the reader to simultaneously follow the expedition's route and its adventures.



## Children of the Yangtze River



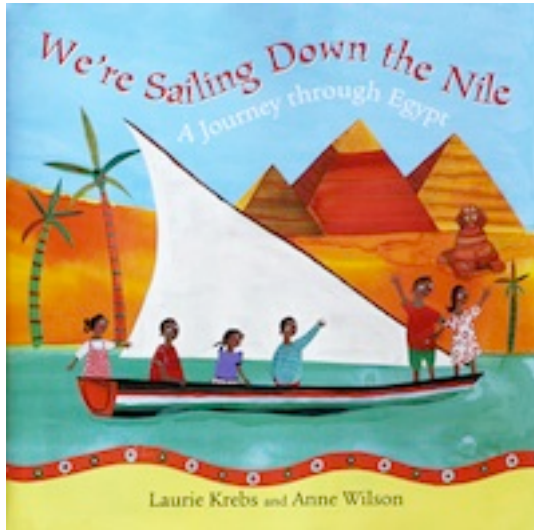
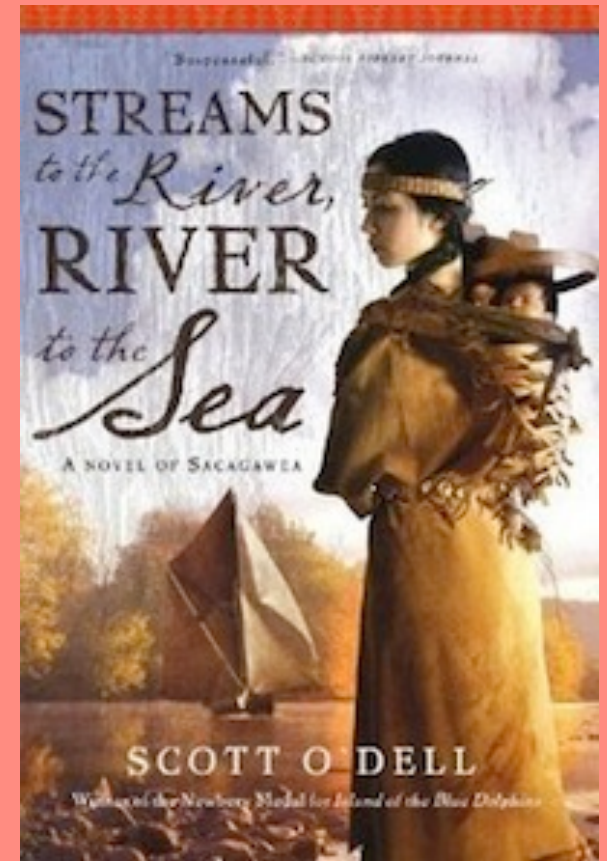
## CHILDREN OF THE YANGTZE RIVER BY OTTO SVEND

Mei Mei and Chang's life in their Chinese village takes a drastic turn after Yangtze River begins to rise and sweeps the houses, trees, animals, and people along its path.

**Streams to the River, River  
to the sea: a novel of  
Sacagawea**

by Scott O'Dell

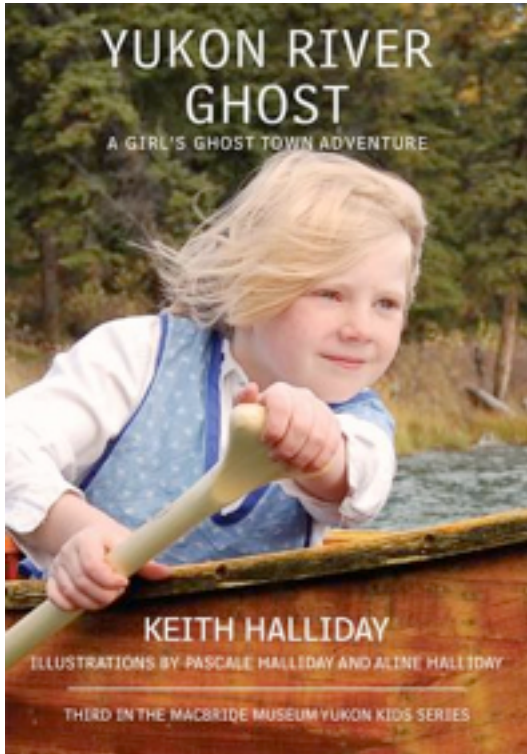
A young Indian woman,  
accompanied by her  
infant and cruel  
husband,  
experiences joy and  
heartbreak when she  
joins the Lewis and  
Clark Expedition  
seeking a way to the  
Pacific



**We're Sailing Down the Nile**

**We're Roaming in the Rainforest: An Amazon Adventure**

both by Laurie Krebs



## Yukon River Ghost: A Girl's Ghost Town Adventure

by Keith Halliday

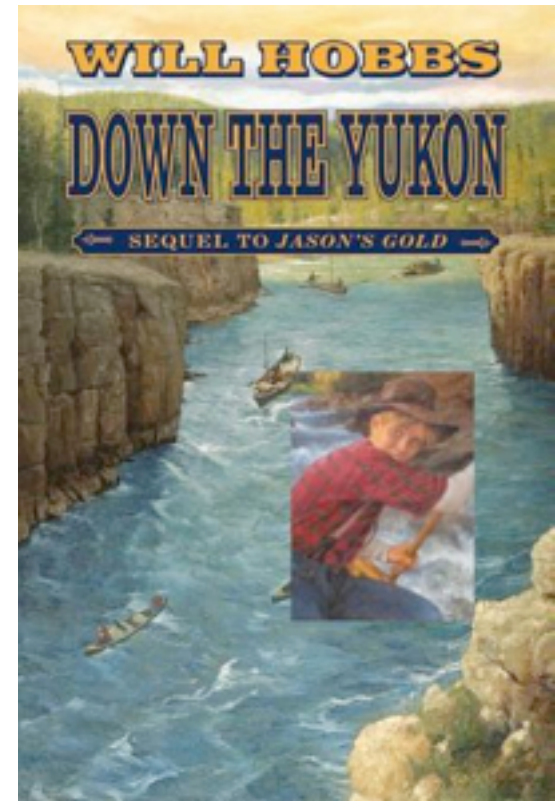
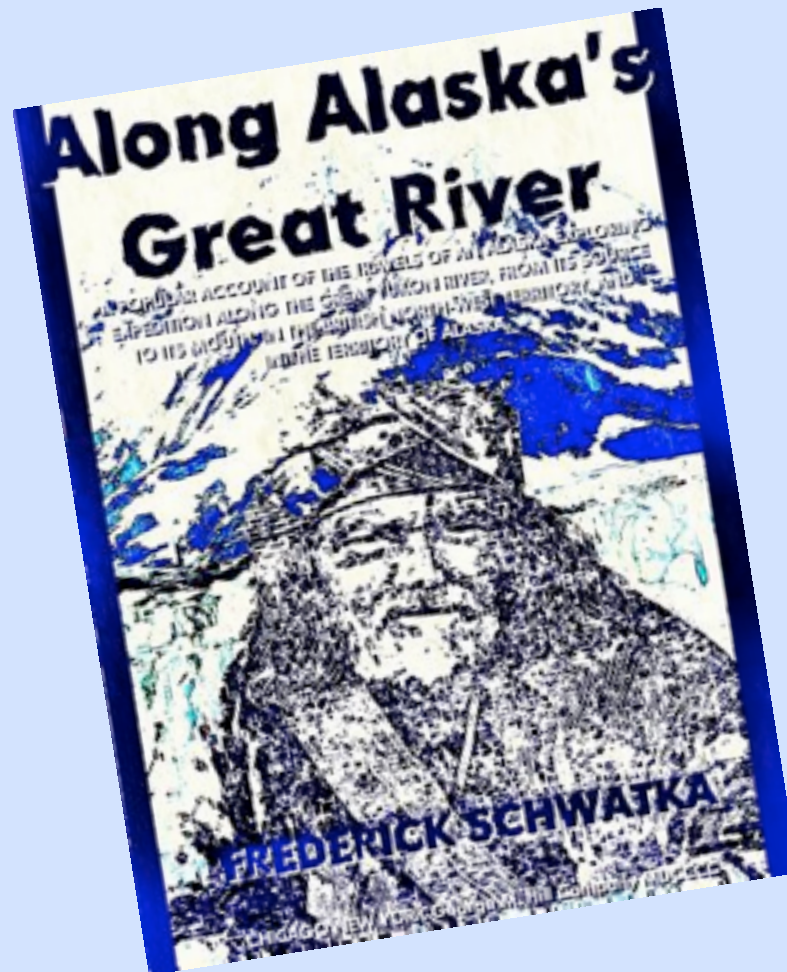
An idyllic Yukon River trip turns into a mysterious adventure as the kids discover a gold rush ghost town that seems to have a ghost!

## Along Alaska's Great River

by

Frederick Scwhatka

A great river expedition.....



## DOWN THE YUKON

by Will Hobbs

The great race across Alaska! As Dawson City goes up in flames, Jason Hawthorn itches to join the new rush for gold in Nome, 1,700 miles away.

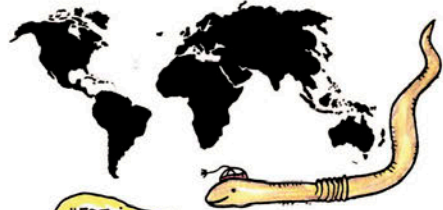
# MAP of the MONTH

## CHINA

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!



WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE?

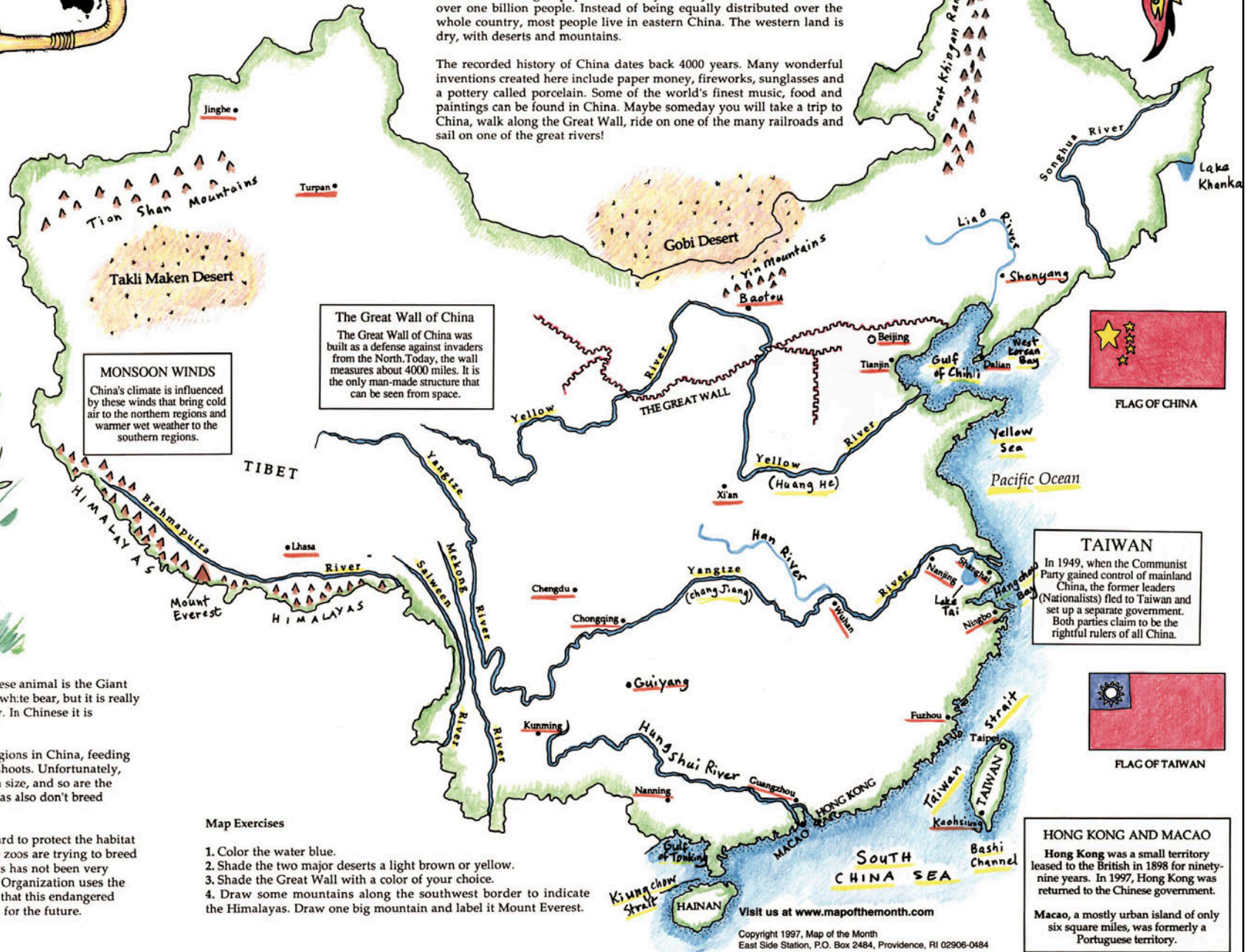
Earthworm was born in 1992, the Year of the Monkey. According to Chinese folklore, this means he is intelligent and full of enthusiasm! With a little research, you can find out what year you were born in, and what that means according to the Chinese animal signs.



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.



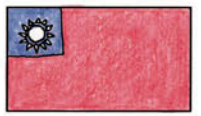
**MONSOON WINDS**  
China's climate is influenced by these winds that bring cold air to the northern regions and warmer wet weather to the southern regions.

**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.



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.

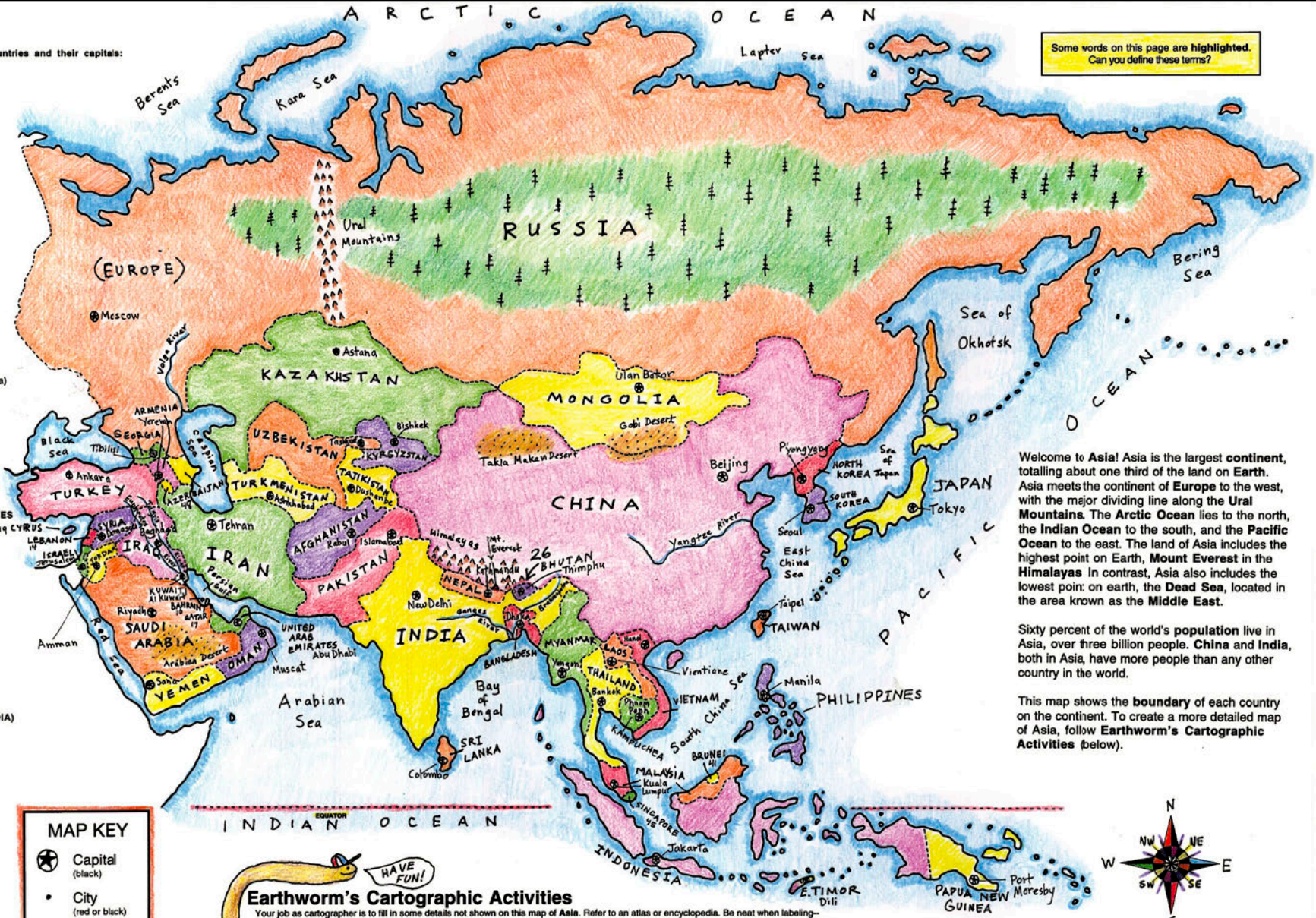
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Here is a list of Asian countries and their capitals:

- 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 TURKEY  
Ankara
- 13 SYRIA  
Damascus
- 14 YEMEN  
Sana'a
- 15 PAKISTAN  
Islamabad
- 16 NEPAL  
Kathmandu
- 17 INDIA  
New Delhi
- 18 BHUTAN  
Thimphu
- 19 BANGLADESH  
Dhaka
- 20 AFGHANISTAN  
Kabul
- 21 SRI LANKA  
Colombo
- 22 KAMPUCHEA (CAMBODIA)  
Phnom Penh
- 23 MYANMAR  
Yangon
- 24 LAOS  
Vientiane
- 25 THAILAND  
Bangkok
- 26 VIETNAM  
Hanoi
- 27 CHINA  
Beijing
- 28 MONGOLIA  
Ulan Bator
- 29 NORTH KOREA  
Pyongyang
- 30 SOUTH KOREA  
Seoul
- 31 JAPAN  
Tokyo
- 32 TAIWAN  
Taipei
- 33 BRUNEI  
Bandar Seri Begawan
- 34 INDONESIA  
Jakarta
- 35 MALAYSIA  
Kuala Lumpur
- 36 PHILIPPINES  
Manila
- 37 SINGAPORE  
Singapore City
- 38 PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
Port Moresby
- 39 ARMENIA  
Yerevan
- 40 AZERBAIJAN  
Baku
- 41 GEORGIA  
Tbilisi
- 42 EAST TIMOR  
Dili

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



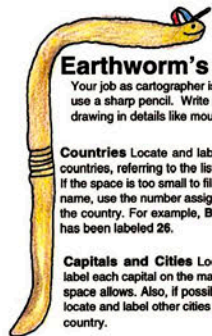
Welcome to Asia! Asia is the largest continent, totalling about one third of the land on Earth. Asia meets the continent of Europe to the west, with the major dividing line along the Ural Mountains. The Arctic Ocean lies to the north, the Indian Ocean to the south, and the Pacific Ocean to the east. 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: Black Sea, Caspian Sea, Red Sea, Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, South China Sea, East China Sea, Sea of Japan, Sea of Okhotsk, 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

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