

China

by Mrs. Bordine's First Graders 2013

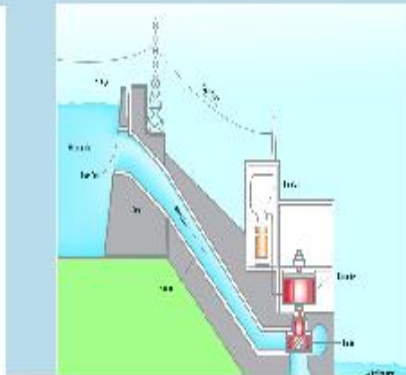
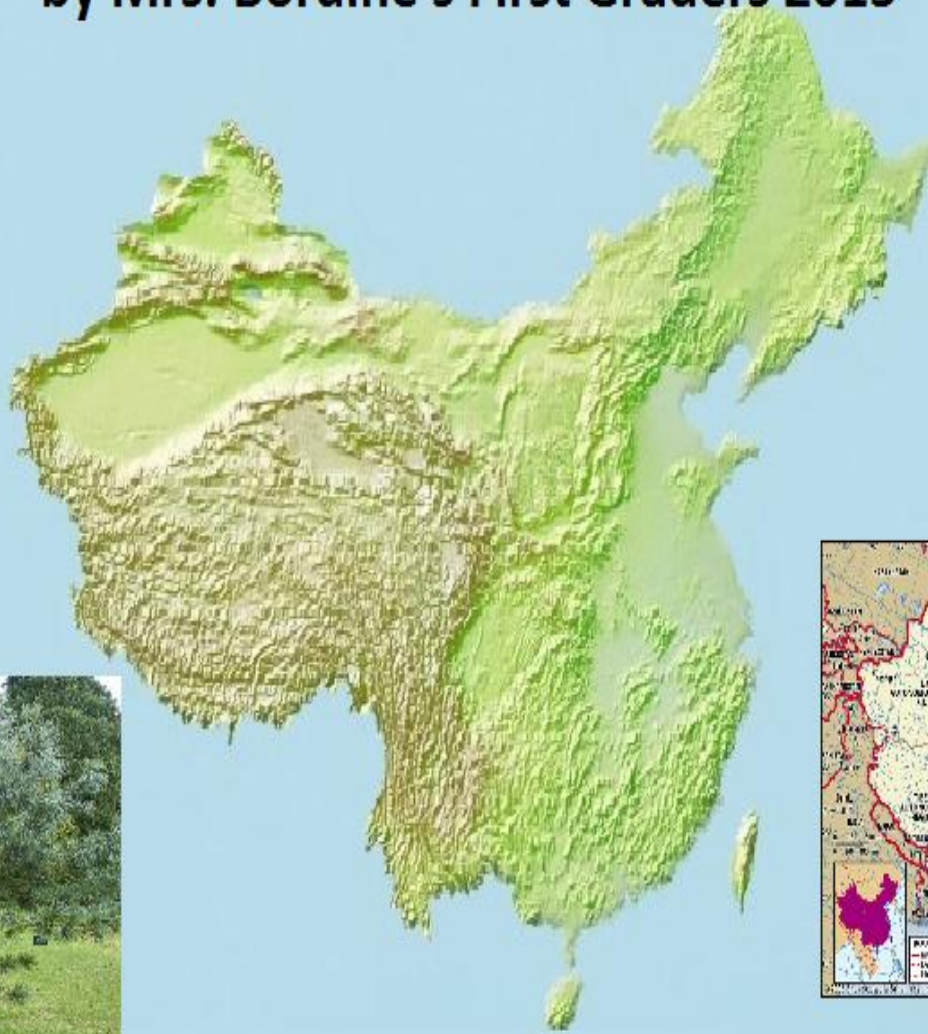


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Locations and Climate

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Location



World Map. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013.

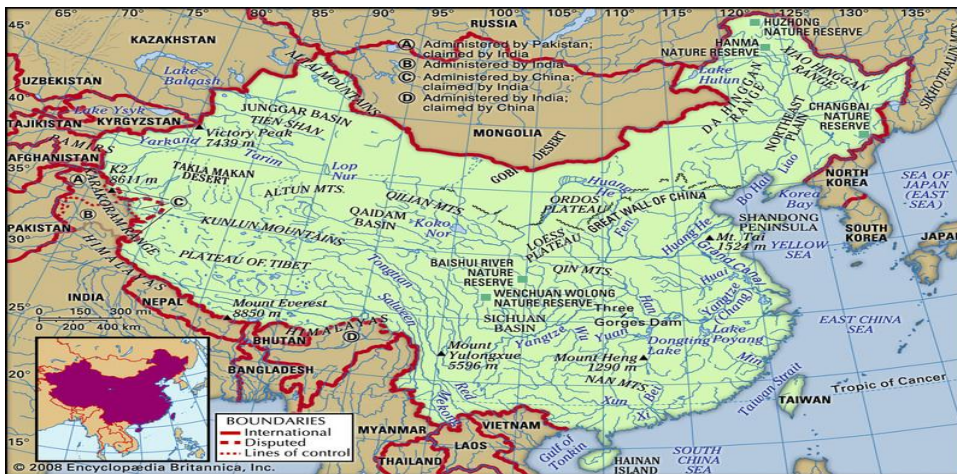
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The Pacific Ocean separates Asia and China from the North America and the USA.

China is a bit smaller than the USA.
(Remember, that Alaska is part of the USA and it is BIG!) China is the fourth largest country in the world. It is east of the USA and on the eastern part of the continent of *Asia*. Europe is northwest of China. North and South Korea and the Japanese islands are northeast of China. The Yellow, East and South China Seas are on

China's east coast. Mongolia and Russia are north of China and India is south of China. Australia is southeast of China.

Beijing (Peking) is China's capital and it is in the northeastern part of the country. Another big city in China is Shanghai, (the largest city). It is south of Beijing. Most of the people of China live near the coasts or *rivers* where factories can be built.

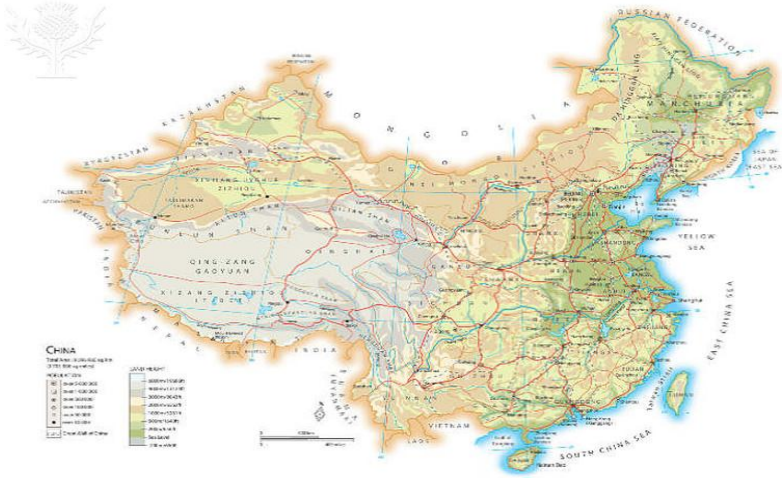


Map Of China. Illustration. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013.
http://quest.eb.com/images/309_2928844

China has a lot of mountains in the southwest and central parts of the country. The Huang He (Yellow) and the Yangtze Rivers are in the eastern part of the country.

In the southeast there are plains and farms and tropical rainforests and jungles. Most of the rain is in southeast China where there are many *rice* paddies. China is the largest producer of *rice* in the world. There is a special forest in southeastern China called the Maolan Karst.

China is called “The Roof of the World” because it has so many high mountains. The highest mountain is part of the Himalayan mountain range in the southwest and it is called Mount Everest.



Map Of China. Photograph. Encyclopædia

Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/118_793645

Desert areas are north of the southwest mountains and in northern and central China.

In the northeast there are evergreen forests. The northeast is also known for its long, dry summers and cold winters. In the northwest there are deserts that are north of the highest mountains in the world. One desert is called “The Sea of Death” because it is so dry there.

Climate

Many sandstorms in China cause breathing problems for the people. They are planting trees in desert area to stop the sandstorms.



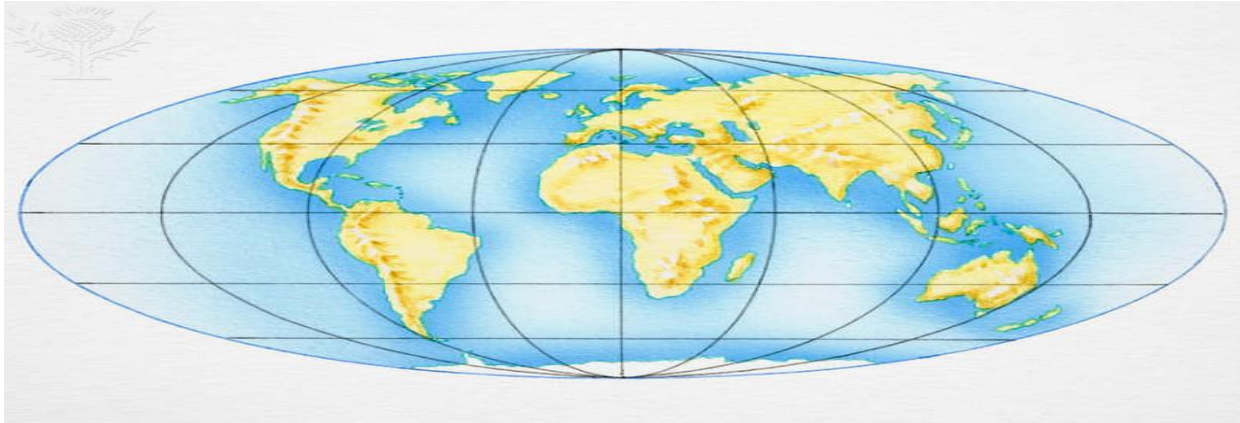
Bicyclists In Beijing Sand Storm. Photographer. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013.
http://quest.eb.com/images/115_2676364

The people living in Beijing, China's capital city, wear face masks to protect them from the frequent sandstorms.

The weather around rivers in China is rainy and *humid* and sometimes soggy. The deserts are north of the mountains and they are cold at night and dry and hot during the day.

Did you know that if you lived in China the weather would be similar to the weather in the United States? China is north of the equator just like the USA so both countries are cold in

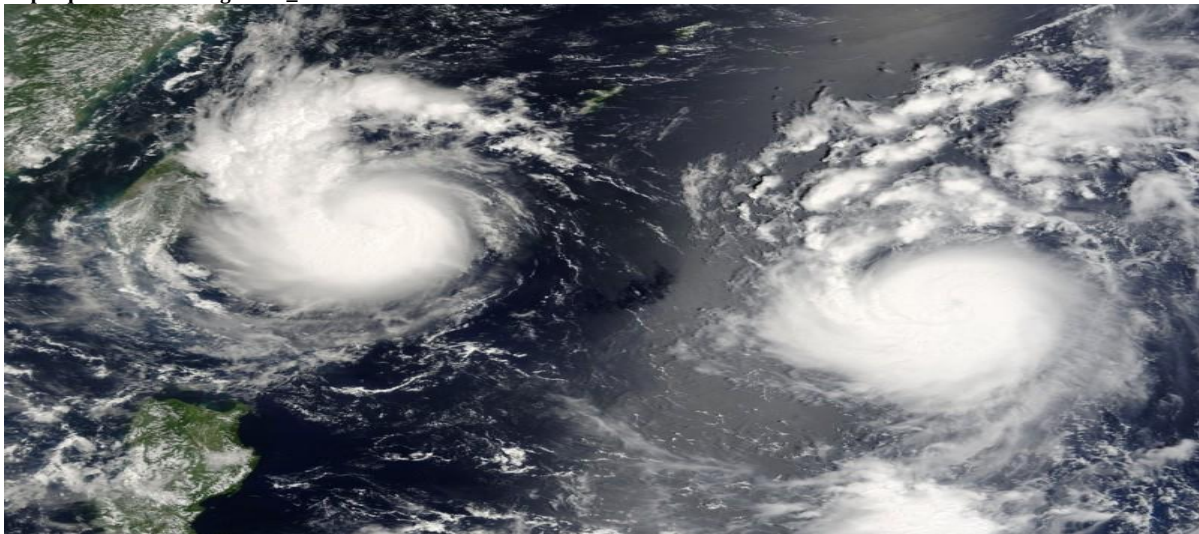
the northern and mountain areas but fairly warm in the southern areas.



Map Of The World. Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/118_810779

The middle, horizontal line is the equator. Both China and the USA are north of the equator.

Typhoon Saomai And Tropical Storm Bopha. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/132_1242226



*China has **typhoons**. Typhoons are storms with really strong winds. They are like hurricanes in the USA. The climate of the USA and China are about the same because they are near the equator.*

Natural Features

Sachin Rose Mark Jai Hayley Yaxi Irina
Dhruv Leon Nick

Pandas, mountains, deserts, rivers and rainforests...OH MY! China is full of all kinds of natural features! China is famous for its pandas but fewer than 1,000 are still living in the wild.

China is shaped like a chicken. Chickens live in China. One kind of chicken in China plays peek-a-boo to mate.

Chicken. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/139_1987902



Map Of China. Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/118_793645

China is shaped like a chicken but does it taste “Just like a chicken?” (cluck cluck)

Forests

The Maolan Karst in the southeast part of China has caves and tunnels underground made by all of the rain. There are rare kinds of animals and plants there. Over 500 kinds of trees can be found in the Maolan Karst.

Evergreen trees, especially pine trees, grow in the northeastern parts of China where it is

colder. The Korean Pine tree is pretty and included in many gardens, parks, and art from China.



Korean Pine . Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/128_984282

This is a Korean Pine Tree but it is found in China.

Desert

The huge Gobi desert is between China and Russia. The Gobi desert is the fifth largest desert in the world. It is north of the mountains in the northwestern part of China.



Gobi Desert. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/131_1414414

Desert Gobi. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/300_3368954



The Gobi Desert has canyons, mountains and very little plant life in it.



Gobi Desert. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26

Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/131_1422539

Did you know that the Gobi desert has animals in it too? There are animals such as black tail gazelles, marbled polecats, Bactrian camels, Mongolian Wild Ass, and Sand Plovers.

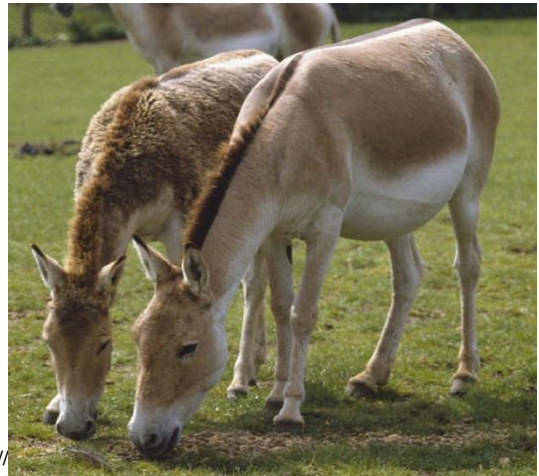
Bactrian camels

Mongolian Wild Ass



Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 28 Feb 2013. <http://>

Equus Hemionus Kulan. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 28 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/118_835617/

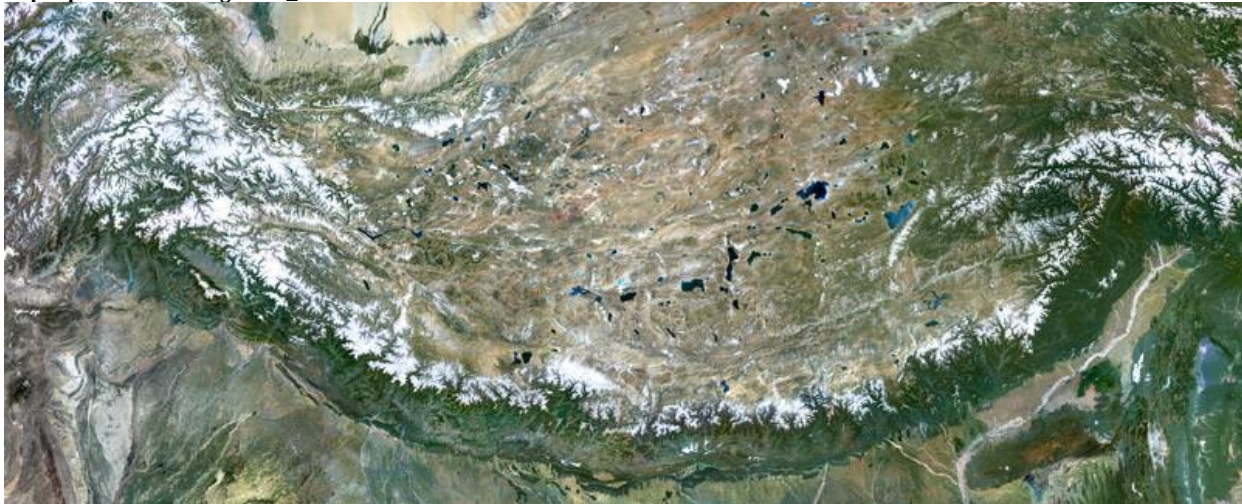


There used to be dinosaurs in the desert and it also used to be an ocean. But the Gobi desert has dinosaur fossils. Now this desert gets very little rain. The Taklimakan Desert is also one of the largest sand deserts.

Mountains

The mountains of China can be seen from space (using satellites) because they are so high. China has A LOT of mountains. Some of them are inactive volcanoes.

Peoples Republic Of China - Satellite Image - Map .Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 28 Feb 2013.
http://quest.eb.com/images/306_521180



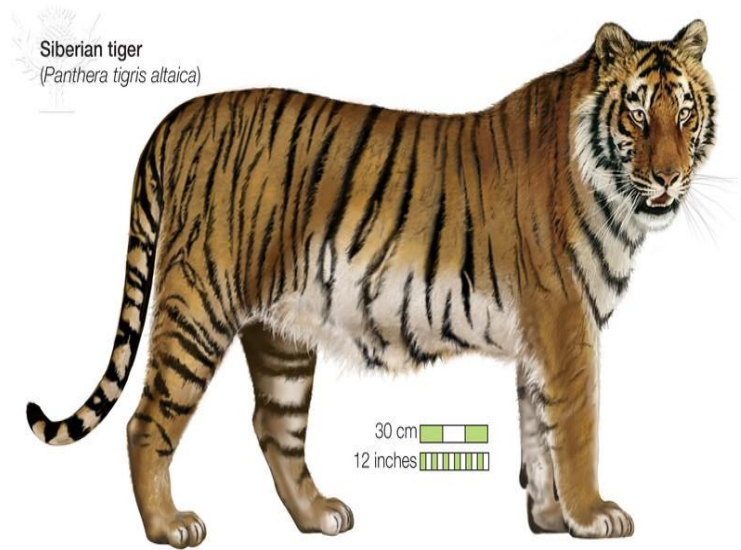
The Himalayan mountain chain is in the southwest part of this image of China. You can see the snowcaps!

Many animals live in the many mountains of China. Some are the Red Panda, Yak, Chinese Pheasant and the Siberian Tiger.





Golden Pheasant Or Chinese Pheasant (*Chrysolophus pictus*)
http://quest.eb.com/images/167_4033873



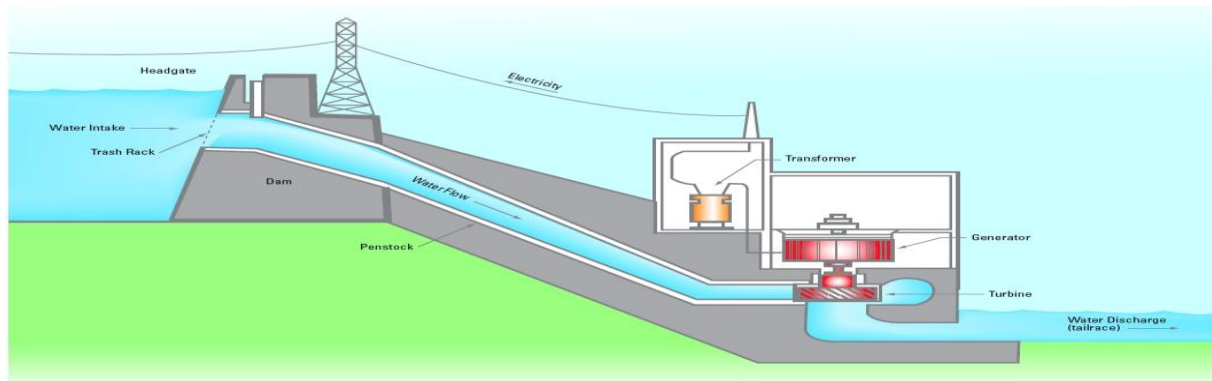
Siberian Tiger. Illustration. *Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest*. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/309_365722

Mount Everest is the highest mountain on earth. It is 29,000 feet high. It is between China and India. Everest is one of the Himalayas of Southern *Asia*. It is very cold on Mount Everest.

The people of China are actually flattening some of their mountains to make room for more cities and, of course, the *rice* paddies.

Rivers

China has more than 50,000 curving *rivers*. The longest is the great Yangtze River. It is the third largest in the world. It flows from the west to the east and ends at Shanghai. There are a lot of huge dams on this giant river to stop flooding and create more electricity for the people. These vast dams have humongous wheels (*turbines*)



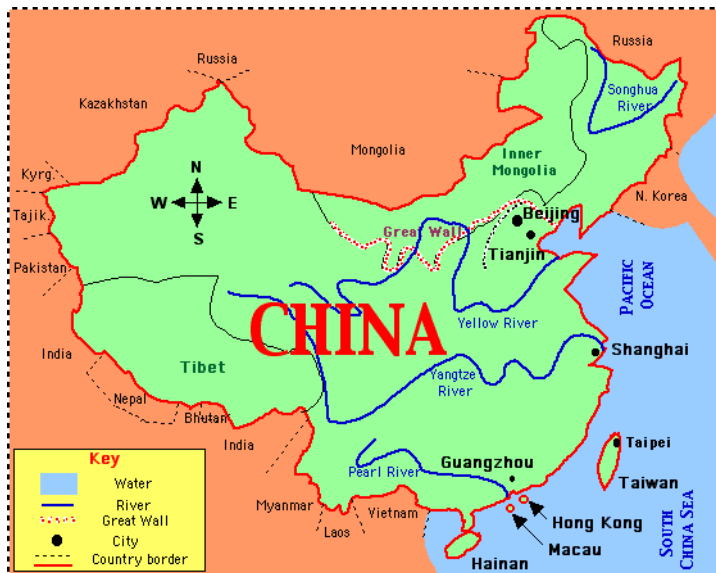
China, Three Gorges Dam.. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/300_1820780
 Hydroelectric Power Generation <http://etrical.files.wordpress.com/2009/12/hydrohow.jpg>

*This is a diagram of a dam where the strong flow of the river causes large wheels or **turbines** to turn. They move magnets which create electricity for the people living around the dam.*

inside that make magnets turn to create electricity. The world's largest dam is on the long Yangtze River and it is called the Three Gorges Dam.

China, **Three Gorges Dam**. [Photography]. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Retrieved 28 Feb 2013, from http://quest.eb.com/images/300_1820780





Map of China and its *rivers*

http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_obVIAR4GgLM/TN7OAhguW0I/AAAAAAAAAD8/HVfYv7IW-_Q/s1600/china_great_wall_river_map.gif

The curvy Yellow River (Huang He) is known as the “Sorrow River” because it has had a lot of floods killing people and destroying sugar cane, soybeans, tea, and rice crops near it. But it is also known as the “cradle of civilization” because a lot of Chinese history was made near it. It is north of the deep Yangtze River and closer to beautiful and busy Beijing and the *Great Wall*.

All of the great mountains and zigzagging rivers in China create a lot of fine-looking waterfalls! The Huangguoshu Waterfall is the largest and one of the ten most beautiful waterfalls in southwest China. It is surrounded by mountains.

GORGEOUS!



Huangguoshu Waterfall Largest In China 81m Wide And 74m High, Guizhou Province, China, Asia. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 28 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/151_2585394



Human-made Features

Timothy Cole W Sreevignesh Leah Kaitlyn Joanne
Elizabeth Emma

Did you know that some people think you can see the *Great Wall of China* from the moon? But this is NOT true! The Great Wall **is** humongous. It is 4,163 miles long. It is about 15-25 wide. To drive across America takes three to four days so to drive across the Great Wall would take 4-5 days. It is the longest structure ever built. **BUT...**you can see it using a telescope from a satellite. Astronauts cannot stand on the moon and see it.



Mutianyu Great Wall.

Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/131_1873248

The Great Wall was built on ridges of hills and mountains.



This a bridge that connects the parts of the Great Wall.

The Great Wall Of China, Badaling, People's Republic Of China.. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013.
http://quest.eb.com/images/137_3074869

The Great Wall of China was put together over hundreds of years by the Chinese people. Their first Emperor (Chin) ordered them to build it to keep out their enemies. This is how China (Chin) got its name. When an enemy was about to attack, guards that stood in towers built in the wall, would light fires to send messages to other guards. The towers are about 1.3 miles apart.

The Chinese people build houses with curved roofs and pointy edges. They think the curved and pointy roof will chase away evil spirits. Their houses are smaller than the houses in the USA.



Chinese School. Photo. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/167_3999718

This is Chinese school with a curved roof.

The roof below has lions and dragons on it to scare away evil spirits.



Roof Detail. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/131_1871129

Other structures in China are the famous terracotta soldiers/armies that were found in 1974 by a Chinese farmer. They are about 2,000 years old. There are about 8,000 soldiers, 130 chariots and 670 horses standing to protect the first emperor of China after his death. Some of the people who Emperor Chin ordered to make the soldiers burnt most of them because they were so mad at him.

This is clay soldier with its horse.



Clay Soldiers/Ch'in Shih-Huang-ti/ C3 BC. Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/109_139660

Rice paddies have been around for 2,000 years. Even today they still don't use machines to make them. If you flew in an airplane over China you would see mountains that have been made into giant stair steps. These steps are rice paddies. The roots of the



Rice Paddy. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/139_2009938

This farmer is planting rice in cool water that is about 1-4 inches deep. Each rice plant has about 20 shells of rice.
rice plant are grown in water on the flat ground. China is the largest producer of rice in the world.

Chinese people use silk to make much of their clothing. They get the silk from silk worms.

Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/131_1870495



Silk worms create the silk from inside their bodies.

Did you know that Chinese money has Chinese writing and a Chinese man on the money? On Chinese New Year many kids get red envelopes with money in them. They make red lanterns, dragons and lions too because these mean good luck. Also, fireworks help scare evil spirits away like the curved roofs.



Relatives give children money for Chinese New Year.



Lion Dance At Chinese New Year Celebration. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/139_194801

The Chinese do not have an alphabet like ours. Their writing is actually many characters or pictures that are whole words not just single sounds. We call this calligraphy.



CHINA, BEIJING. MAN WRITING CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY OUTDOORS. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 26 Feb 2013.
http://quest.eb.com/images/300_1824230

These are Chinese calligraphers.

Interesting Facts

Population

A LOT more people live in China than in the USA. 1.3 billion people live in China. Only 314 million people live in the USA. China has about 4 times the number of people than the USA.



CHINA, LIUCHOW. CROWD OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS. Photography.
Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest
. Web. 1 Mar 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/300_1827199

There is a ginormous amount of people in China.

We drive a lot of cars in America. More than 540,000,000 bicycles are ridden in China. That is a gigantic amount of bicycles.



Bicycles In The Rush Hour, Kunming, Yunnan Province, China, Asia. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013.
http://quest.eb.com/images/151_2525019

There are an enormous amount of bicycle riders in China.

Culture

China is 500,000 years old. THAT'S A LOT of time! The Chinese have a fascinating and very different culture than we do. In China there is no alphabet but it has cool letters called characters.



Chinese Calligraphy. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/139_1942723

These are Chinese characters that are whole words or thoughts.

Lots of people in China do Tai Chi to strengthen their mind and body.



Morning Tai Chi, Shanghai, China, Asia. Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013.
http://quest.eb.com/images/151_2564963

Every morning some Chinese people do a strengthening exercise called Tai Chi .

There are Chinese violins that have only two strings and the sound box is made with python skin!! Some people in China enjoy putting on

plays and wearing masks and colorful costumes to tell stories.

There is a myth that *pandas* used to be white but one died and the other pandas spread black fire ashes. So, now they are black and white. People in China love pandas. Pandas are bamboo eaters. Pandas are close to extinction.

Giant Panda Searching For Food In Vegetation China. Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/116_1513914



This giant panda is eating leafy, green plants.

150 million of Chinese people are poor. These people do not live along the coasts or rivers. They live inland. 46 million people are poor in the USA.

A Group Of Men Migrating From The Countryside, Playing Cards Outside Guangzhou Train Station, In Guangdong Province, China. April 2009..
Photography. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/300_3203346

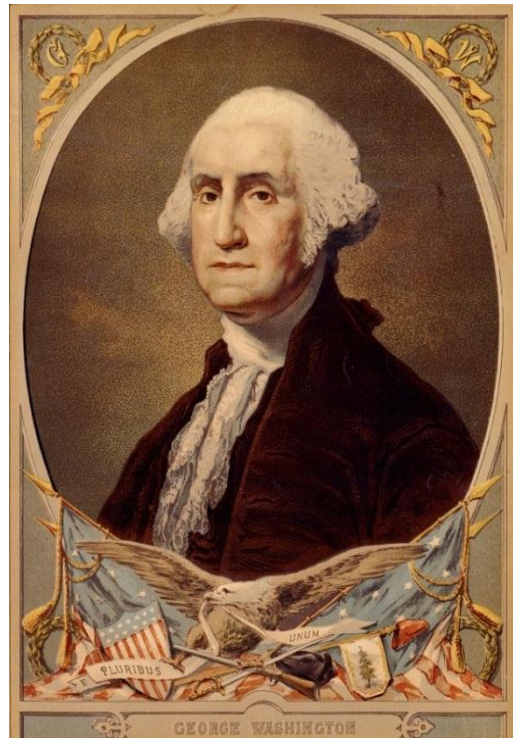


These are men who are migrating (moving) to cities in eastern China hoping to find a job.

Leaders

The USA has presidents but China had Emperors to lead the people. China had 232 emperors. An emperor is someone who rules over the land and the people.

SHIH HUANG TI (259-210 B.C.). – Also Known As Ch'in Shih Huang Ti Or Cheng. Chinese Emperor. Chinese Drawing.. Fine Art. Encyclopædia



Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/140_1645177

Washington, George. Fine Art. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/107_3358067

These are the first leaders of China (Emperor Chin) and of the USA (George Washington).

Miscellaneous

People think fortune cookies come from China but a Chinese man in California made them from noodles and gave them to the poor.



Fortune Cookie. Photograph. Encyclopædia Britannica Image Quest. Web. 1 Mar 2013. http://quest.eb.com/images/118_830675

Inside a fortune cookie there is a little strip of paper that has your future printed on it. There are also lucky numbers printed on the back.

We predict the fortune in **this cookie will say that we will have an awesome vacation in chicken China!! (cluck-cluck)**

Glossary

characters – chinese writing, calligraphy

civilization – a lot of people in one place with a specific culture

coast – a big area of land along an ocean

extinction – almost no longer alive, disappearing

frequent – a lot, over and over

humid – moist, misty and hot

invade – to attack

mate – to come together to make babies

plain – flat land

satellites – a machine that orbits earth in space

soggy – wet, mushy

Tai Chi – exercise practice for defending and for health

turbines – giant wheels

typhoon – tropical storm

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Brittanica Online Edition.
[**http://school.eb.com/elementary/search?query=China
&ct=&x=19&y=7**](http://school.eb.com/elementary/search?query=China&ct=&x=19&y=7)