Southern & Eastern Asia's Geography
Standards

SS7G9 The student will locate selected features in Southern and Eastern Asia.

a. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map: Ganges River, Huang He (Yellow River), Indus River, Mekong River, Yangtze (Chang Jiang) River, Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean, Sea of Japan, South China Sea, Yellow Sea, Gobi Desert, Taklimakan Desert, Himalayan Mountains, and Korean Peninsula.

b. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map the countries of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Vietnam.
Teachers

Print off the following pages for each student. They should use an atlas to label the maps before the presentation. The students should complete the chart while discussing the presentation.
Directions:
Label the following countries on the political map of Asia.
• China
• North Korea
• India
• South Korea
• Indonesia
• Vietnam
• Japan
Directions:

I. Draw and label the physical features listed below on the map of Asia.
- Ganges River
- Mekong River
- Huang He (Yellow River)
- Yangtze River
- Indus River
- Himalayan Mountains
- Taklimakan Desert
- Gobi Desert

II. Label the following physical features on the map of Asia.
- Bay of Bengal
- Yellow Sea
- Indian Ocean
- Sea of Japan
- Korean Peninsula
- South China Sea

- Color the rivers DARK BLUE.
- Color all other bodies of water LIGHT BLUE (or TEAL).
- Color the deserts BROWN.
- Draw triangles for mountains and color them GREEN.
- Color the peninsula RED.
Directions:

I. Draw and label the physical features listed below on the map of Asia.
   • Ganges River
   • Mekong River
   • Huang He (Yellow River)
   • Yangtze River
   • Indus River
   • Himalayan Mountains
   • Taklimakan Desert
   • Gobi Desert

II. Label the following physical features on the map of Asia.
   • Bay of Bengal
   • Yellow Sea
   • Indian Ocean
   • Sea of Japan
   • Korean Peninsula
   • South China Sea
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Features</th>
<th>Illustration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>印度洋 (Indian Ocean)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>爱琴海 (Sea of Japan)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>长江 (Yangtze River)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>恒河 (Ganges River)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>湄公河 (Mekong River)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Directions: Fill in each square with details about the physical feature where it is located and an illustration.
The Ganges River starts in the Himalayas and flows southeast through India and Bangladesh for more than 1,500 miles to the Indian Ocean.

It is the most important river to the Indian subcontinent.
- It runs through India’s most fertile and densely populated areas.
- Because so many people live and work along the Ganges, the water in the river is heavily polluted.

The name comes from a Hindu goddess and the river is considered sacred to the Hindu religion.
The Huang He, or Yellow River, begins in the mountainous plateau of Tibet and flows east to the Yellow Sea.

This is China’s second longest river.

Chinese civilization began in the central area of this river basin.

It’s named for the muddy yellow silt that it carries along its path to the Gulf of Bohai in the northern Yellow Sea.

• The silt creates rich topsoil for farmers.

• Annual floods make the river’s path dangerous.

• It’s nickname is “China’s Sorrow” because of the frequent flooding.
The Indus River begins in the Himalayas in Tibet and runs through India and Pakistan.
- It flows about 2,000 miles through desert before emptying into the Arabian Sea.
- It provides water for one of the largest irrigation systems in the world.
- The Indus River valley is one of the richest farming areas in this region.
The Mekong River begins in the Tibetan Plateau and flows south through China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and finally Vietnam, where it empties into the South China Sea.

The Mekong River delta has some of the richest farming land in the region.

- One of the region’s most important crops, rice, is grown in the Mekong Basin.
Yangtze (Chang Jiang) River

• It’s the largest and longest river in China (over 3,400 miles) and the third longest in the world.

• The Yangtze River begins in the Tibetan Plateau and travels east until it reaches the East China Sea.

• The Yangtze is extremely important for China because it provides hydroelectric power, water for irrigation, and transportation for cargo ships.

• The Yangtze and Huang He Rivers are connected by one of the world’s oldest canal systems, the Grand Canal.
  • Some parts were built over 2,000 years ago.
The Bay of Bengal is an arm of the Indian Ocean with India to its west and Myanmar to its east.

Many large rivers, including the Ganges River, flows into the bay.
Indian Ocean

• The Indian Ocean is the third largest of the world’s five oceans.

• It lies between Africa to the west, Asia to the north, Australia to the east, and the Southern Ocean to the south.
The Sea of Japan is a small sea that is bound by Russia to the north, the Korean Peninsula to the west, and Japan to the east.

It is an arm of the Pacific Ocean that lies between the Asian continent and Japan.
South China Sea

• The South China sea lies between Vietnam and the Philippines.

• The Mekong River empties into the South China Sea.

• Weather in the region is marked by violent monsoons and typhoons.
Yellow Sea

- The Yellow Sea is an arm of the Pacific Ocean that lies between China and Korea.

- The Huang He (Yellow River) empties in the Yellow Sea.

- It becomes the East China Sea south of the Korean Peninsula.
The Gobi Desert is Asia’s largest desert. It stretches across southern Mongolia and northern China.

Much of the Gobi Desert is covered with sand and rocks.

It is known as “Shamo”, the Chinese word for “sand desert”.

It can be one of the hottest and also one of the coldest places on earth.
The Taklimakan Desert lies between two rugged mountain ranges in northwestern China.

It is over 600 miles in length, making it one of the longest deserts in the world.

Giant sand dunes cover 85% of its surface.
Himalayan Mountains

- The Himalayas lie along the northern edge of the Indian subcontinent and form the southern border of China.
- The mountains stretch for about 200 miles.
- The Himalayan mountain range is the world’s highest mountain region.
  - Nine of the world’s ten largest peaks are located here, including Mt. Everest, the world’s highest mountain.
  - It is sometimes called “the roof of the world” because of the area’s high altitudes.
The Korean Peninsula is a mountainous peninsula that juts out of northeastern China in between the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan.

Over half of the peninsula is made up of mountains, but there is still plenty of rich farmland.

Since 1948 (end of World War II), the peninsula has been divided into two countries: North Korea and South Korea.
Your Task: Create trading cards for the important physical features of Asia. Use the cards to play “Memory” or to quiz yourself.

Instructions:
1. Fill out each box in the cards below according to the template.
2. Color your pictures and anything else that will make your cards look more realistic.
3. Cut out your trading card.
4. Fold along the middle.
5. Tape the sides together.
## Find Someone Who Knows...

Directions: You will have several minutes to walk around the classroom and poll your class about what they know about the Asia’s physical features. If your classmates know the answers, ask them to write down their first names or initials in the boxes. When we finish this exercise, we will go over the answers and people who have initialed the boxes should know the answers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Which river runs south from Tibet to Vietnam to the South China Sea?</th>
<th>2. Why is the Huang He referred to as the Yellow River?</th>
<th>3. What river in China is a major source of hydroelectric power, irrigation water, and transportation for cargo ships?</th>
<th>4. Which desert is located in northwestern China between two mountain ranges?</th>
<th>5. This sea lies between Vietnam and the Philippines and has violent monsoons and typhoons.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. What is located at the mouth of the Yangtze River?</td>
<td>7. What are the two great deserts found in China?</td>
<td>8. Mt. Everest and 8 more of the world’s tallest mountains are found here.</td>
<td>9. This river is sacred to the Hindu religion.</td>
<td>10. What body of water lies between Japan and the continent of Asia?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Why is the Huang He sometimes called “China’s Sorrow”?</td>
<td>16. Which river flows through India and Bangladesh to the Bay of Bengal?</td>
<td>17. What is the peninsula between the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan called?</td>
<td>18. What are the two rivers that start high in the Himalayas?</td>
<td>19. What ocean lies between Africa and Australia?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<td>Why is the Huang He referred to as the Yellow River? <strong>Named for the muddy yellow silt it carries along its path</strong></td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>This arm of the Pacific Ocean lies between China and Korea. <strong>Yellow Sea</strong></td>
<td>7.</td>
<td>What are the two great deserts found in China? <strong>Gobi and Taklimakan</strong></td>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Mt. Everest and 8 more of the world’s tallest mountains are found here. <strong>Himalayan Mountains</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>What river is the longest in China? <strong>Yangtze (Chang Jiang) River</strong></td>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Why are the Himalayas called the “roof of the world”? 9 of 10 tallest mountain peaks in the world</td>
<td>13.</td>
<td>This desert stretches across southern Mongolia and northern China. <strong>Gobi Desert</strong></td>
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<td>Why is the Huang He sometimes called “China’s Sorrow”? <strong>Devastating floods</strong></td>
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</table>
Postcard Directions

Front:
Draw a colorful illustration of one of the physical features that we have studied. Include a short greeting (title).

Back:
Write a note to your family as if you have visited some of the features that we have studied in Asia. (Include descriptions for at least 3 of the features.) Don’t forget to draw & color the stamp!

*Cut out your postcard, fold along the dotted line, & tape the sides together.
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