Culture of Asia

Pathfinder for Social Studies

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INTRODUCTION

Among seven continents, Asia is the world’s largest and most populous continent which covers 8.7% of the Earth’s total surface area and covers 30% of its land area. It hosts 4.3 billion of people which is 60% of the world’s current human population.

Geographers subdivided Asia, and its 48 countries, into six different regions.

1. Northern Asia (Light Blue) also known as Siberia where 40 million people living and the majority is now Ethnic Russia.

2. Central Asia (Purple) consists of Soviet Socialist Republics. The main culture is Chinese*, South Asian, Persian, Arabian, Turkish, Russian, Sarmatian and Mongolian.

3. Eastern Asian (Red) consists of China, Japan, North Korea, South Korea and Taiwan. The influence culture is Chinese*.

4. Western Asia (Yellow) also known as Middle East. Culturally, the region is Hebrew (Jews), Turkish, Arab and Persian.

5. Southern Asian (Brown) has Dravidian, Indo-Arya, Tibeto-Burman, Iranian, and Persian culture.

6. Southeast Asia (Green) culture is diverse. The major cultures are Indian and Chinese*.

* Indicate the culture we are searching.

Watch this video clip
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2DMMofvq0qw
which will show the regions, countries and culture of Asia.

Cultural features: Asian art, architecture, music, cuisine and literature are important parts of Asian culture.

Martial arts figure highly in Asian cultures. Chinese martial art is also known as Kung Fu.

**KEYWORDS & PHRASES**

Try using and looking for these words while scanning books and indexes, searching in databases and reference websites, continuing your search on websites, and watching videos:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Keyword Searching</th>
<th>Other Words to use with General Keyword:</th>
<th>Example:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asia</strong></td>
<td>History, Ancient</td>
<td>History of China: Ancient China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Culture</td>
<td>Culture, Traditions, Ceremonies, Festivals</td>
<td>China Culture: New Year Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Asian Region such as East Asia</td>
<td>Animals, pets</td>
<td>Asian Lion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Individual Country such as China, Iraq</td>
<td>Attractions, historical places</td>
<td>Great Wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Individual City such as Tokyo, Baghdad</td>
<td>Clothing, apparel</td>
<td>China Silk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Places in Country such as Fuji, Taj-Mahal</td>
<td>Art, crafts, masks, decorations, sculpture</td>
<td>Japanese No mask</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion in Asia such as Buddhism</td>
<td>Sports, games, hobbies, dance</td>
<td>Chinese Dragon Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School, education, students, literature</td>
<td>Chinese literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Entertainment, music, television, books</td>
<td>Asian Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food, cuisine</td>
<td>Sushi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Palaces, Temples, Houses, shelter</td>
<td>Shaolin temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Habitats, climate, weather</td>
<td>Boreal Forest of Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Martial Art</td>
<td>Kung Fu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Buddhist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nobel Prizes</td>
<td>Mother Teresa</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### PRINT RESOURCES

#### Non-Fiction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A is for Asia</td>
<td>By Cynthia Chin-Lee, illustrated by Yumi Heo</td>
<td>Orchard Books, c1997</td>
<td>Learn and see the pictures about the events, foods, animals, crafts, and traditions that make Asia a continent special and each Asian country unique. Learn also the native language of each country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>By Mike Graf</td>
<td>Bridgestone Books, 2003</td>
<td>Look map and learn about a brief introduction to the geographical features and the various regions of the continent of Asia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A kid's guide to Asian American history: more than 70 activities</td>
<td>By Valerie Petrillo</td>
<td>Chicago Review Press, c2007</td>
<td>Using games and crafts read and learn about the People, experiences and events that shaped Asian American history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therizinosaurus and other dinosaurs of Asia</td>
<td>By Dougal Dixon</td>
<td>Picture Window Books, c2007</td>
<td>See and learn the introduction of dinosaurs of Asia including how they lived and what they have in common with today's animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 read-aloud Asian myths and legends: 10 minute readings from the world's best loved Asian literature</td>
<td>By Joan C. Verniero</td>
<td>Black Dog &amp; Leventhal Publishers, 2001</td>
<td>Read and learn the collections of myths, legends and stories from Japan, China, Vietnam, Korea and Tibet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American crafts kids can do!</td>
<td>By Sarah Hartman</td>
<td>Enslow Elementary, c2006</td>
<td>Learn about different cultures while putting together easy-to-do crafts that represent each country. Some of the exciting crafts included are Story Stage, Shadow Puppets, and Paper Cuttings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Art</td>
<td>By Kimberly Lane</td>
<td>Charlesbridge, 2008</td>
<td>Learn more about Asian art which highlights twelve masterpieces from South, East, and Southeast Asia, tracing artistic traditions through time and across cultures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiction</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Asian children’s favorite stories: [a treasury of folktales from China, Japan, Korea, India, The Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia]**  
By David Conger, Kay Lyons, Liana Romulo, Joan Suyenaga and Marian Davies Toth. ; illustrated by Patrick Yee.  
Boston, Mass,: Tuttle; Enfield : Publisher Group UK, 2006  
Read about what are the favorite folktales of Asian children (China, Korea, India, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand) |
| **Bee–bim bop!**  
By Linda Sue Park; illustrated by Ho Baek Lee.  
Learn about a Korean child who is eager for a favorite meal by helping parents with the shopping, food preparation, and table setting. |
| **The jungle books**  
By Rudyard Kipling  
Waterville, Me. : Kennebec Large Print, 2009  
Discover the jungles of India and read about a boy Mowgli who lives in the jungle with his panther, bear and other animals. |
| **The name jar**  
By Yangsook Choi  
Read about a Korean girl Unhei who moves from Korea to the United States. After moving, her new classmates help her decide what her name should be. |
| **Hush! A Thai Lullaby**  
By Minfong Ho; pictures by Holly Meade  
New York : Orchard Books, 1996  
See pictures and read about a lullaby which asks animals such as a lizard, monkey, and water-buffalo to be quite and not disturb the sleeping baby. |
| **Sunflower and the secret fan : a novel**  
By Lisa See  
Learn about two Chinese women from nineteenth century who exchange messages written on silk fans and handkerchiefs to communicate in secret and misunderstanding arises then friendship threatens to tear apart. |
| **The knight, the princess & the magic rock: a classic Persian tale**  
By DSara Azizi, illustrated by Alireza Saseghian  
Bloomington, IN : Wisdom Tales, c2012  
Read about a brave young Persian knight falls in love with a beautiful princess, daughter of the neighboring king, who is an enemy of Persia. |
| **Zen and the art of faking it**  
By Jordan Sonnenblick  
Learn about a thirteen-year-old San Lee who is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism and becoming a convincing Zen master. |
References


Audiobook, E-book, or Interactive Book

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origami in the Classroom Book 2</th>
<th>Asian folk tales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By Chiyo Araki</td>
<td>[Video recording]</td>
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<tr>
<td>click here for electronic book</td>
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Mobile App

South Asia App
This mobile app contains stories, videos, photos and daily news from which you can learn more about South Asian life and culture. Home Page <http://southasianpeoples.imb.org/app>
It is available for Apple (iOS), Android and Windows Phone.

ASIAN Geographic Junior Magazine App
This mobile app is suitable for children aged 7 to 13. Readers will be wide-opened to colorful and distinct cultures, fascinating wildlife endemic to the region and changing trends that are shaping the Asia. <http://www.magzter.com/SG/Asian-Geographic-Magazines-Pte/Asian-Geographic-JUNIOR/Children/>
It is available for Apple (iOS) and Android.

Asia Capital Quiz App
To improve your general knowledge about Asia, this app will help you to learn and play. It is available for Android.
DATABASES, E-PERIODICALS & REFERENCE RESOURCES

Kids InfoBits

Provided by DISCUS-South Carolina’s Virtual Library <http://www.scdiscus.org/discus-kids>

**General Information**

**Description:** This database is available on any computer through Discus Kids. You can search reference, magazines, newspapers, maps, flags, seals, charts, graphs and images. This database will give you the information from GALE CENGAGE database.

**Searching Tips:** To search, type Asian country, or other search terms, into the Find box at the top.

Select which subject you would like to view. Then choose which type of resources you would like to search (reference, magazine, newspaper).

See sample searched images:

- **Type keyword here to search and click search**
Choose subject and click view

Select type of resources
Good For: General & Specific Information

Description: This database is available on any computer. You can search reference, fiction, non-fiction, audiobooks, video recordings, paperback, printed books and electronic resources. This database will give you the information from Allen County Public Library database.

Searching Tips: To search, type Asian country, or other search terms, into the Search box at the top. Refine the results by selecting age level, type of resources, category, collection, subject and user tag will make the search narrowing and easy to find out the resources.

Still Need More Information? Try to use keywords & phrases and search via:

- KidsClick!: [http://www.kidsclick.org/](http://www.kidsclick.org/)
- 4Kids.org: [http://www.4kids.org/](http://www.4kids.org/)
WEBPAGES

Asia Society Kids
Asia Society Kids. 2009 Asia Society  [http://kids.asiasociety.org/]

The information from this website is rich of resources like images, maps, arts, stories, languages and games of Asia. I am sure this website is suitable for kids as it is rich of information with easy to read and understand. It is a source of information and kids can apply that information to learn and explore the experience of Asia. Moreover, they can read stories, play the games, and see video clips to learn the culture of Asia. This website is distinct since it provides the pure information only about Asia.

Asia for Kids

This website is not same as other since it is a shopping website where a collection of Asian cultural items. However, I hope kids can learn some information about Asian cultural like Korea Mask, toys, doll, characters from this website. I chose this website as the information would help the kids since it supports the images of gifts which are obvious and it is a great collection of Asian cultural gifts. Kids can refer the information from this website like Asian doll, toys and gifts for their research and to enlighten their knowledge. At least they can preview the video about Korean kids.

Ducksters

This website is selected as it is rich of information like maps, images which are easy to understand and can be applied to learn the map and Asia continent, regions, countries, cities. In an addition, this website could be applied for the kids’ research and general knowledge. It has a lot of information about Asia and primary source of information. This website is extensive information about the whole world geography and history in easy understandable format.

Discovery kids
Discovery kids, 2012 Discovery Communication, LLC.  [http://www.dkids.asia/]

This website is selected as it is rich of information like maps, images which are easy to understand and can be applied to learn the map and Asia continent, regions, countries, cities. In an addition, this website could be applied for the kids’ research and general knowledge. It has a lot of information about Asia and primary source of information. This website is extensive information about the whole world geography and history in easy understandable format.

University of Illinois Extension
University of Illinois Extension, 2014 University of Illinois Board of Trustees.  [http://urbanext.illinois.edu/friends/index.cfm]

This website provides the checklist to prepare for travelling to Asian countries. Moreover, kids can learn Activities of Asia like Origami gallery, proverb of Asia, Travel Journal, Flags, countries of Asia and games. These are the distinct things of this website and kids can learn and use Asian proverb and games. In an addition, they can learn how to prepare before travel to Asian country. The information provided by this website is easy to understand and learn since a lot of images provided. From this website, kids can learn general information and also specific information like how to make checklist to travel to Asia and culture of Asia and games of Asia.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Pete's Power Point Station</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pete's Power Point Station, art owned by Phillip Martin. (<a href="http://continents.pppst.com/asia.html">http://continents.pppst.com/asia.html</a>)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This website is suitable for those who are searching presentation and games about Asia. The information from this website is authoritative information. We can learn the format of presentation for different regions, countries of Asia. Not only for kids, this website suitable for teachers as well. For kids, there are Asian games and activities for kids, geography games to experience.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Owl &amp; Mouse</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owl &amp; Mouse, 1998-2011 Owl and Mouse Education Software. (<a href="http://www.yourchildlearns.com/online-atlas-asia.htm">http://www.yourchildlearns.com/online-atlas-asia.htm</a>)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through online atlas maps, map of Asia and its countries can be learnt from this website. The information from this website is primary resource and it is easy to read as it has a lot of images used for design presentation. Kids can use this website to learn the world map, Asia map and the individual maps of Asia. Moreover, they can joy the map puzzles from this website. Kids can also learn the history of Asian countries. Searching tips, from home page, click Online Atlas Maps and then choose Asia. You can still explore more countries by clicking and hit A brief History and Geography of country if it is available.</td>
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| **Freer | Sackler: The Smithsonian’s Museums of Asian Art** |  |
|---------|---|
| Freer | Sackler: Freer and Sackler Galleries, 2013 Smithsonian Institution. (<http://www.asia.si.edu/>) |  |
| This website is selected as you can learn more specific information about Asian Art at one place through internet. It is a primary source of information and excellent place of great Asian Art collection. It is easy to navigate the whole website to learn the Asian Art. Moreover, it is wonderful website as we can experience the online Art Exhibition from this website. It also educates the kids by showing How to Make Your Own Mini Gallery. The searching tip for online exhibition is clicking EXHIBITIONS and then Online Features. The searching tip for making own mini gallery is that click EXPLORE+ LEARN and choose Kids and Families then you will see Make your own miniature gallery at the bottom of webpage. |  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Asian Art Museum</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This website is good for specific information seeker. From the gallery section, you can view the image gallery of Asian Art. Moreover we can explore the art of Asia through this wonderful website. It is chosen as the information is primary source of Asian Art displayed at Asian Art Museum. It is a collection of Asian Art and easy to search in collection. This website could be applied to refer the Asian Art and celebrities with video clips.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>TRAVEL+LEISURE</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It is a travel and tour company website however it is worth browsing as it would provide the information of Asian countries like travel guide, activities in brief and can read articles for more information. It is also a primary source of information. We can experience the travel to Asian cities with this website. We can learn what are the things we can do each Asian city, we can taste and read articles about each cities and overview of each city before we get the actual trip to those cities.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

It is good for general knowledge and an excellent website to get up-to-date statics and facts about countries all over the world. It includes a detailed map. Therefore, this website is selected. Moreover, kids can explore more about Asian countries like flags, comparisons, political, physical of Asia. This website is selected as the kids can learn every single of Asia countries by clicking on world map provided by CIA.

Kidzworld
*Kidzworld 2014* [http://www.kidzworld.com/]

This website is worth seeing as it has completed and rich of information about Asian culture with much images. From this website, kids can learn the holidays, heritage, traditions, culture and festivals of most Asia countries like China, Japan, and India. This website can be used as a guidebook to Asian countries. This website is different from others as it can explain the holidays, heritage and culture of Asian countries. It is also a primary of information source. Moreover, it can be learned what is foot binding of Chinese and 2008 China Olympic which are interesting and kids can learn general knowledge about Asia.

Bradshaw Foundation

The information from this source is also easy to understand as it describes with full of images and video clips. It is another source of information about rock art around the world. This website relates to my pathfinder as it gives rock art of Asian countries such as China, Tibet, India and Middle East. Information from this website can be applied in research of rock art found in Asian countries. The significant point of this website is that it links to fascinating archaeological and anthropological information on rock art and other ancient discoveries.

Global Trek

It gives the information of each country in details with comprehensive background information which also is a primary source. It presentation and design of content is nice and easy to read and understand as it includes lots of images and maps. The primary source of information. It completely relates to this pathfinder as it provides the review of each Asian country, photos of interesting places, famous people, culture, and even support tour guide for each country. This website is unique as it experiences a virtual travel to the world experience.

National Geographic Kids

This website provides the resources about Asia, its people and places, countries, animals and nature with videos, photos, games like Geography. Information from this website is easy to read, primary source of information, rich of pictures and safe. The video clips and news can be used to learn the experience of Asia. This site is awarded Parent’s Choice Recommended Winner 2008 and Webby awards.
**HOW TO USE THIS PATHFINDER**

This pathfinder is a guide to locating a range of suitable resources that may be online and/or offline. It guides students through these resources for a specific subject to achieve a successful learning outcome. Juvenile use this pathfinder as a starting point for research on Asian culture eScrabook and to learn and explore more about Asian life.

From this pathfinder, you can find below information:

- General Knowledge about Asia and its regions, countries, capitals, cities, interesting places, religions, currency, map, flag and people.
- Literature and art like music, fiction, non-fiction, video and animation.
- Apply and experience Mobile App to brainstorm your knowledge about Asia.

Before you explore this pathfinder, you should know little general information about world such as what Asia is and some interesting facts like Kung Fu, Sushi and Sudoku. With this pathfinder you should focus on people, places, sports, games, food, animal, city/town, architecture, transportation, entertainment, festivals and holidays.

**LOCAL RESOURCES**

Asian culture could be learnt at local resources like the following places.

1. Indianapolis Chinese Community Center Inc. Click the link for more detailed information:
   https://www.indychinese.com/
2. University of Indianapolis (Asian Programs)
   Good Hall Room 202 A&B
   Phone No: (317) 788-3288
   Fax No: (317) 788-3480
   http://www.uindy.edu/asianprograms/
3. Indianapolis Chinese Festival. Click the link for more information
   http://www.indianapolischinesefestival.com/

**TO CREATE PROJECTS**

Inspiration could help to create projects like puzzles, cartoon and many more. You may try with Free Trial and create projects like **Geographical puzzle of the 50 United States**, **Cartoon Creator**, **Comparing Native American Tribes**, **Mapping**, **Symbols and Leaders of United States** from Social Studies Lesson Plans of Inspiration Software, Inc.

Integrate visual learning video clip will help you how to create a project. Click here to see video clip.


Scratch is another project making software. You can create your own projects like virtual tour for your favorite places like Asian countries and places. Here is an example project from scratch. Click link to see preview.

PURPOSE OF THIS PATHFINDER

This pathfinder is intended for juveniles to be used for their social studies about Asian culture. As part of social studies, they need to develop an eScrapbook based on the information they have collected about Asian, specific Asia countries, cities, places, people or cultures. According to the Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science, a pathfinder is "designed to lead the user through the process of researching a specific topic, or any topic in a given field or discipline, usually in a systematic, step-by-step way, making use of the best finding tools the library as to offer." Therefore, the purpose of this pathfinder is to introduce Asian culture by presenting some quality resources to young adult and to guide them to explore more specific resources about Asia.

The Need for Electronic Materials

All of us do not have enough luck to travel around the world to get the experience of each country however we still have good chance to get the experiences from books, audio, video files and even from games. Perhaps we are fortunate enough to travel to those countries from Asia we need to collect resources about those before we have not been there to understand the cultures and what is like today. During these days, the technology improves and enhances to assist people so we can get the enriching resources not only from physical books also from electronic books, CDs, VCDs, DVDs and even from mobile application. Moreover, there are a lot of websites where the Asian cultures like art, music, literature, food, costume and more than that which could be learned and experienced.

Selection Process and Criteria

On behalf of kids, I selected these resources as those are simple, easy and rich of information. I also used these resources to look for the information about Asia continent and China country. Based upon the results, I consider the following facts to decide whether they are worth to refer and suggest in this pathfinder.

1. The resource is about Asia and its culture with rich of information such as images, maps and other materials which could be referenced enough to explore many more about Asia and culture.
2. The resource is suitable for young people (juvenile) as the searching and presentation of information is simple and enrich of materials which are intended for them.
3. The websites are filtered and safe for young people. Moreover, the information and content is organized to be quickly searched. I do not want them to spend much time to skim and skip unnecessary things, I just want them to navigate and browse the things they are looking for.

TEACHER RESOURCES

The following is the useful web links for teachers who are looking for Asia and its culture.

ASIAN NETWORK: Promoting Asia in the Liberal Arts < http://www.asianetwork.org/>
It is a brilliant resource which can offer a lot of resources for teaching about Asia. It can help the teachers to read the framework of liberal arts education. Click here for resources.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS: EAST and Southeast Asia < http://www.loc.gov/>
Library of Congress is such a wonderful resource for teachers, where a collection of resources about Asia could be found and read. Click here for collection of resources.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC: Education < http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/>
It is another amazing website for teacher resources about Asia. From this website, a lot of materials can be found and learnt.