

**Historian tip # 3:** Historians use atlases to learn where countries are located.

## Today's investigation: **Where is China?**

**Outcome of the investigation:** Our historians will be able to

1. point to China on maps of Asia and the world
2. use the index of an atlas to identify the location of new countries
3. use the compass rose to identify countries to the N,NE,E,SE,S,SW,W,NW of China

**Vocabulary:** Asia  
settlements

**Materials:** large map of Asia (may be on overhead)  
globe  
copies of atlases  
post-it notes  
A is for Asia (a beautifully illustrated alphabet book)  
by Cynthia Chin-Lee

**Introduction to Read-aloud:** Discuss that China is on the continent of Asia, and that the class will hear a little bit about Asia before looking to find the countries they hear about on maps. (have a students recorder write down the name of every Asian country which is mentioned during the read-aloud. Following the read-aloud, the student should write the names of these countries on the board).

**Read aloud:** A is for Asia (a beautifully illustrated alphabet book)  
by Cynthia Chin-Lee

**Mini lesson:** When we want to know more about a country, it is helpful to think about where in the world that country is located. We just read about the continent which China is in, which is an excellent start. If a good historian wants to find out where these countries are, he or she may turn to an atlas. (Brief demonstration of locating a country in an atlas, review compass rose: 5 minutes).

**Activities:** In small groups (depending on number of atlases available) students will search for China using an atlas. Following that, they may search for other Asian countries. They should note whether the other Asian countries are to the N,NE,E,SE,S,SW,W, or NW of China.

