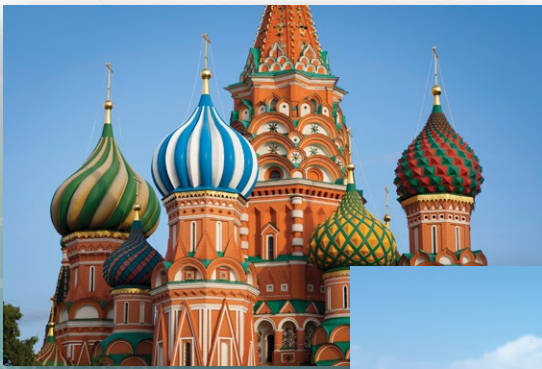


Simply Charlotte Mason presents

Visits to **ASIA**

by Sonya Shafer



**Your Guide to Exploring Asia
through Maps and Living Books!**

Make geography come alive

through the delightful combination of maps and living books!

With the *Visits to . . .* series, you will explore each region of the world through captivating photography, a traveler's firsthand accounts, delightful living books, and step-by-step work with maps.

Each *Visits to . . .* book serves as your guide to

- see the big picture as you explore continent by continent.
- become familiar with the countries of the world and where they are located.
- get to know real families who live in those countries and see what their lives are like.
- look closely and carefully at the details of those families' countries.
- create a personal map book.

With short map drills, guided readings from two fascinating travelogues—*Material World* and *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats*, —leading narration and discussion questions, meaningful map studies, plus lots of ideas for additional living books and activities, you are sure to enjoy these visits to each part of your world!

Explore the world with the entire *Visits to . . .* series!

Visits to Africa

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Visits to Europe

Visits to South & Central America and Australia

Visits to North America

Visits to Asia

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Visits to Asia

by Sonya Shafer

*Your Guide to Exploring Asia
through Maps and Living Books*

Visits to Asia

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Itinerary for Your Visits

The Big Picture	7
Visit 1: Map the countries of Asia: India, Sri Lanka, Maldives	8
Visit 2: Get to know the Yadav family in India	10
Visit 3: Make your own map of India	12
Visit 4: Get to know the Patkar family in India	14
Visit 5: Map the countries of Asia: Nepal, Bhutan	16
Visit 6: Get to know the Namgay family in Bhutan	18
Visit 7: Learn more about the Namgay family in Bhutan	20
Visit 8: Map the countries of Asia: Bangladesh, Myanmar (Burma)	22
Visit 9: Map the countries of Asia: Laos, Thailand	24
Visit 10: Get to know the Kuankaew family in Thailand	26
Visit 11: Make your own map of Thailand	28
Visit 12: Rivers and Review	30
Visit 13: Map the countries of Asia: Cambodia, Vietnam	32
Visit 14: Get to know the Nguyen family in Vietnam	34
Visit 15: Map the countries of Asia: Malaysia, Singapore	36
Visit 16: Map the countries of Asia: Indonesia, East Timor	38
Visit 17: Map the countries of Asia: Brunei, Philippines	40
Visit 18: Get to know the Cabaña family in the Philippines	42
Visit 19: Map the countries of Asia: Japan	44
Visit 20: Get to know the Ukita family in Japan	46
Visit 21: Make your own map of Japan	48
Visit 22: Get to know the Matsuda family in Japan	50
Visit 23: Review	52
Visit 24: Islands of Asia	54
Visit 25: Map the countries of Asia: Taiwan, China	56
Visit 26: Get to know the Wu family in China	58
Visit 27: Make your own map of China	60
Visit 28: Get to know the Dong family in China	62
Visit 29: Map the countries of Asia: North Korea, South Korea	64
Visit 30: Map the countries of Asia: Russia	66
Visit 31: Get to know the Kapralov family in Russia	68
Visit 32: Map the countries of Asia: Mongolia, Kazakhstan	70
Visit 33: Get to know the Regzen family in Mongolia	72
Visit 34: Get to know the Batsuuri family in Mongolia	74
Visit 35: Map the countries of Asia: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan	76
Visit 36: Mountains, Desert, and Review	78
Extra pages to make more of your own maps	80
Country names to cut out	87

Materials Needed

- *Material World* by Peter Menzel
- *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats* by Peter Menzel
Peter Menzel traveled the world, staying with “average” families in many countries and documenting their ways of life. These two books that present his fascinating memoirs and captivating photography are used in all six books of the *Visits to . . .* series.
- Pen
- Tracing paper
- A soft pencil (4B works well)
- Colored pencils

Recommended Reading

Grades 1–3 or Family

Most of these are picture books that younger students will particularly enjoy, but don't overlook how much everyone can learn from a well-written children's book. Feel free to share them with the whole family. Older students might read them to the younger students.

- *The Children of China: An Artist's Journey* by Song Nan Zhang
- *A Grain of Rice* by Helena Clare Pittman OR
Grandfather Tang's Story: A Tale Told with Tangrams by Ann Tompert
- *Horse Song: The Naadam of Mongolia* by Ted and Betsy Lewin
- *Kami and the Yaks* by Andrea Stenn Stryer
- *Kampung Boy* by Lat
- *The Life of Rice: From Seedling to Supper* by Richard Sobol
This book is out of print, but a library near you may have a copy.
- *The Way We Do It in Japan* by Geneva Cobb Iijima
- *Yasmin's Hammer* by Ann Malaspina

Grades 4–12

- *The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam* by Quang Nhuong Huynh
A realistic yet simple and matter-of-fact reminiscence of life among wild beasts, poisonous snakes, and jungle ways. If you would prefer a book that is less intense and mostly about animals, read the author's other book instead, *Water Buffalo Days*.

How to Use

Complete one visit per week and you will finish this book in one school year. Throughout the weeks you will visit Asia through four types of activities.

Map the Countries

When you come to a Map the Countries exercise, it will have a labeled map of Asia and a blank one. Fold back the book so the labeled map isn't showing and fill in on the blank map all the countries or regions that you know. Then open the book back up and compare your handwritten map with the pre-labeled one to check your work. As you progress through this book, each Map the Countries exercise will introduce new countries or regions to remember and add to your map next time.

Recommended Reading

Delightful living geography books are scattered throughout the weeks, along with helpful reminders to make sure you have time to get each book for the Visit in which it is mentioned. Check your library for many of the picture books.

Meet the Families

When you come to a Meet the Families section, read the assigned pages from *Material World* or *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats* to help you get a close-up look at families around the world—what they eat, where they live, what they possess, what their days are like. Use the leading questions to prompt discussion or written narration.

Make Your Own Map

When you come to a Make Your Own Map activity, you will have the opportunity to spend a little longer visit in the country you just read about. You will use the labeled map to create your own map, carefully tracing the country's borders and filling in your choice of cities, rivers, mountains—whichever features you want to include. It's your map! Detailed instructions will walk you through the process step by step.

If you want to make more maps of your own, you'll find extra pages in the back of this book.

Extra Visits

You will find lots of ideas on page 6 for adding some extra visits along the way. Enjoy those suggested activities designed to help you linger in your selected part of the world and get to know it even better. Have fun with your Visits to Asia! And when you're done, pick another part of the world to visit:

Visits to Africa

Visits to the Middle East

Visits to Europe

Visits to South & Central America, Australia

Visits to North America

Visits to Asia

Ideas for Extra Visits

Use one or more of the ideas below to add some extra visits to your selected continent or country.

Play a Fun Game

Many interesting and enjoyable geography games are available. One possibility might be the series of games called *10 Days in . . .*, which focuses on each continent (*10 Days in Africa*, *10 Days in Europe*, etc.). Games are a great way to add some extra visits.

Contact a Foreign Missionary

If your church supports a missionary who lives in your selected continent or country, you could connect with him to learn more about the area firsthand. Get his e-mail address. Sign up to receive his updates. If you can video- or audio-chat with him, you can learn about the language in that country and hear some samples. Maybe you can learn how to say “Hello, my name is __” and “What is your name?” in that language. Write down your questions to ask the missionary about that part of the world. And of course, find out more about his ministry and pray for the people, the missionary, and the work there.

Taste Some Authentic Food

Few things transport you to a specific place on earth like the taste of that region’s traditional cuisine. If you are adventurous and love to cook, search the Internet for recipes and the area markets for ingredients and have fun! Many recipes are given in *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats*. If you know a person from that country who loves to cook, arrange for a get-together and a cooking lesson or offer to contribute toward the cost for that person to cook some traditional dishes for your family to taste. You might also check your local area to see if there is a restaurant that specializes in your selected type of cuisine.

Listen to Traditional Music

A vast array of music samples are available through the Internet. Search for “traditional music of ____” and fill in either the continent name or any of the country names.

Search for Current News

Be on the lookout for current events that relate to your selected continent or country. As always, a parent should supervise research and screen any findings to determine whether it is appropriate for family members.

The Big Picture



The visits in this book will take you to Asia. Though it is a region of a larger body of land, it is considered its own continent. Look closely at this map of the world. Which oceans touch Asia? Which continents are close to it and in which directions? Where is Asia in relation to the equator: north (in the Northern Hemisphere) or south (in the Southern Hemisphere)?

Do you have the picture in your mind's eye? Now, without looking, try to describe where Asia is in the world.

Visit 1 Map the Countries

1. First go to page 7 to get the big picture, then come back here.



If you don't want to write the names, you can cut apart the names listed on page 87 and slide them into place to label your map.

-
2. Now take a close look at the new countries highlighted on the map on the facing page: India, Sri Lanka, Maldives. Copy them onto the map below and remember them for next time.



 **Recommended Reading**

Grades 4–12: Read *The Land I Lost*, chapters 1 and 2, “Tank, the Water Buffalo” and “My Cousin.”
Reminder: Get *Kami and the Yaks* for Visit 5.

Visit 2 Meet the Families

Get to know the Yadav family, living in India. You'll find their story and pictures in *Material World*, pages 64–71. The narration questions below will guide your visit. Discuss or write your answers.

1. Look closely at the picture of the Yadav family's house and belongings on pages 64 and 65. Can you identify all the belongings? (Check the list on page 65 for details.)

2. Read the Just After Dawn section on page 69, then see if you can tell about each photograph on pages 66–69.

-
3. Read the Being Clean section on page 71 and look at the corresponding photographs. How would you describe the Yadav family's lifestyle? Check the list on page 71 to see their most valued possessions and wishes for the future.

4. Read the Photographer's Notes on page 71. What strikes you most about the photographer's experience with the Yadav family?

Detailed Visits Project: Older students may want to create a spreadsheet that will record and compare some of the main statistics given about each country. You'll see some about India given on page 68 in Material World, and you'll find similar lists as you visit other countries in the book. Simply label each column of your spreadsheet with one of the descriptive headings from the list on page 68 or from the lists in Hungry Planet: What the World Eats. For example, you might want to compile each country's Population (as of the year the book was published), Life Expectancy, Literacy Rate, Meat consumed per person per year, Food Expenditure for One Week, or any other statistic that interests you. As you read about the different families in different countries, you can add each country's name down the left side of the spreadsheet and its statistics across the row. Then sort the table according to the various columns' headings and compare the areas around the world.

Visit 3 Make Your Own Map

You'll need a pen, tracing paper, a soft pencil, and colored pencils to make your own map of India. Here's how.

1. Place a piece of tracing paper over the labeled map below. Use a pen to trace the border and any components of the map that you want to include on your copy: major rivers, cities, the capital. It's your map; you decide.
2. Turn over the tracing paper and use a soft pencil to scribble carefully over all your traced lines and dots until you can no longer see them. (You are layering pencil graphite onto the paper which will be transferred to create your own map in the next step.)



-
3. Turn the tracing paper right side up again and lay it on this page. Retrace the whole map, going over all the lines you already traced. Be careful not to let the tracing paper slide out of place. As you trace, the graphite on the bottom side of the tracing paper should transfer to this page. Lift up the tracing paper, and you should have a copy of your map.

 4. Use your pencil, pen, and colored pencils to go over the lines again, then refer to the original map for the information to personalize your map. Label it. Make the rivers blue. Write in the towns and cities. The Utter Pradesh region, where the Yadav family's village is, is in the north, near the Ganges River.

Visit 4 Meet the Families

Get to know another family living in India, the Patkar family. You'll find their story and pictures in *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats*, pages 166–173. The narration questions below will guide your visit. Discuss or write your answers.

1. Look carefully at the family photograph with one week's worth of food on page 166. How is it different from the Yadav family's home? Can you identify all the items shown? Check the One Week's Food list on page 167 for help.

2. Read the first section of the narrative about life at the Patkar family's house on pages 167 and 168. Tell what you learned about them.

-
3. Read the Kumbh Mela section of the narrative on page 168 to learn about the month-long religious festival that was happening while the photographer visited. Describe what is happening in the photograph on page 169.

For an extra visit to India, you may want to try cooking and tasting the recipe for Sangeeta Patkar's Rice Flakes on page 172.

4. Read the Field Note on page 170 to learn more about life in India through the photographer's eyes. Also look at the photographs and read the captions on pages 170–173. Tell what you learned about India.

Detailed Visits Project: If you are creating a country comparison spreadsheet, add statistics from the list about India.

Visit 5 Map the Countries

1. Fold back the book so the map on this page is out of sight.



4. Take a close look at the new countries highlighted on this map: Nepal and Bhutan. Copy them onto your map and remember them for next time.

Be sure to check out the ideas for Extra Visits on page 6!

-
2. On the blank map below, label each country in Asia that you know.
 3. Open the book back up and use the pre-labeled map to check your work.



 **Recommended Reading**

Grades 1–3 or Family: Read *Kami and the Yaks*.

Reminder: Get *Yasmin's Hammer* and *The Life of Rice: From Seedling to Supper* for Visits 8 and 9.