

The World of West Africa

Links Far and Near

1. Turn to page 9 of the Atlas. Read the overview. Also look at photo A and map B, "Trading Empires of the West." Use the information to complete the following paragraph.

Kingdoms and empires in West Africa traded with Europe and Asia for many years. The West Africans traded gold, leather, and slaves for luxury goods and salt. Trade routes went across the Sahara with goods carried by camels. Two important empires developed along the Niger River: Mali and Songhai. They each, in turn, dominated West Africa.

Location

2. Look again at photo A and map B. Use the information to match the empire, kingdom, or group with its location.

Empire, Kingdom, or Group	Location
a. Songhai Empire	• in the Sahara
b. Tuaregs	• near the mouth of the Niger River
c. Bornu Empire	• in West Africa
d. Benin Empire	• in northeast Africa and southwest Asia
e. Mameluke Empire	• near Lake Chad

★ History Through Maps

3. Use information from map B to identify the empire associated with each city.

City	Empire
a. Timbuktu	<u>Songhai</u>
b. Alexandria	<u>Mameluke</u>
c. Soba	<u>Funj</u>
d. Kano	<u>Bornu</u>

Trade With the Indies Spurs Exploration

★ Thinking About History

1. Turn to pages 12–13 of the Atlas. Read the overview. Also look at map B “Ottoman Empire and Eurasian Trade.” Then, for each pair of statements, write **C** next to the cause and **E** next to the effect.
 - a. C Europeans fight Crusades in the Middle East.
E Asian goods arrive in Europe.
 - b. E Spain and Portugal look for new routes to the Indies.
C Ottoman Empire takes control of trade routes between Europe and Asia.

🗺️ Links Far and Near

2. Look again at map B. List the cities along trade routes from Asia to Europe in order from east to west.
 - a. Kashgar 2
 - b. Baghdad 4
 - c. Venice 6
 - d. Samarkand 3
 - e. Damascus 5
 - f. Xian 1

🗺️ Location

3. Look at pictures A and D and map C, “Treasures of the Indies.” Connect the product with its source in the Indies.

Product	Source
a. Silk	India
b. Cotton	India and Ceylon
c. Spices	India, Ceylon, Spice Islands
d. Precious stones	China

🐼 People and Cultures

4. Look at map E, "To the Indies by Sea." Write the name of the explorer next to his accomplishments.
- a. Found an all-sea route to the Indies da Gama
 - b. Reached Hispaniola and San Salvador. Columbus
 - c. Explored African coast south of the Equator Cao
 - d. Reached the southern tip of Africa Dias
 - e. One of the earlier Portuguese explorers Gomes

🐼 History Through Maps

5. Compare map E with map B, "Map of the World," on page 10. Use the information to answer the following questions.
- a. According to the 1490 map, which route from Europe to the Indies seems farther—around Africa or across the Western Ocean? around Africa
 - b. Which of those two routes were the Portuguese exploring? around Africa
 - c. Which direction did Columbus sail? west across the Atlantic Ocean

🐼 Gathering the Facts

6. Use the information on pages 12 and 13 to complete the following paragraphs.

Europeans traded for luxury goods from places in Asia they called the Indies. Europeans wanted spices to cover unpleasant tastes; precious stones such as diamonds, rubies, emeralds, and amethyst; and valuable cloth such as silk and cotton. In the late 1400s trade routes between Europe and Asia were controlled by the Ottoman Empire.

Some European countries, including Portugal and Spain, hoped to find their own trade routes to the Indies. In 1492 Spain sent Columbus west to find a route to the Indies. Instead of reaching the Indies, he landed on the islands of San Salvador and Hispaniola. Portugal went around Africa. The Portuguese finally reached India in 1498 when da Gama landed in Calicut.