

# Population illustrated in East Asia

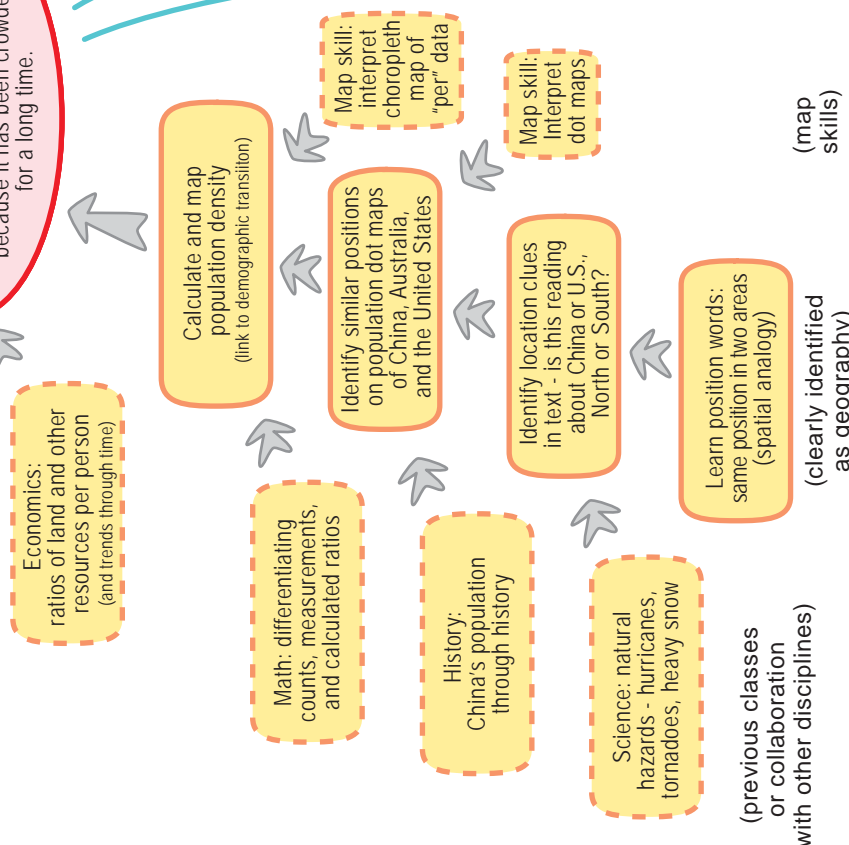
12

Very approximate grade level

R/1

**2** a big geographic idea  
(and a good place to study it)

**Population Density**  
is especially important in China because it has been crowded for a long time.



**3** some important consequences of the big idea

- Population density has complex influences on freedom, privacy, crime, human rights, etc.
- Dense populations can develop diseases that spread rapidly.
- Large populations tend to have more impact on the environment.
- Growing populations often seek places where people can migrate.
- Large populations often trade to get more raw materials (e.g., Silk Roads).
- Large populations usually have many "thinkers": inventors, artists, etc. (positioned where appropriate in the curriculum)
- Large populations can accomplish large projects if they work together.

**A discussion question:**  
What are some implications of rapidly growing China (& India, etc.) consuming more resources and causing more pollution (given that per-capita consumption is still low compared to the U.S.)?



**1** a scaffold of thinking skills and background knowledge that supports the big idea