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Sent 12/15/16 by Randi Hacker, CEAS Outreach Director

CHINA – Desertification Picks up Its Pace (Gr. 1-12)

The deserts in China are expanding more rapidly than ever. Climate change is considered a contributing factor to the accelerated pace. Below are photo essays of the people of China who have called the Tengger Desert home for generations. A poignant – and frightening – look at a changing landscape, changing lives and a changing planet. These provide a good jumping off point to a discussion of human actions, science, the climate change controversy, and the direct impact this very real radical shift in landscape and weather has on the families who rely on an expected level of consistency to survive. What happens when expectations can no longer be met? What would your students do if suddenly the things they have relied on as constants all their lives began to change in ways that threatened their survival?

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/10/24/world/asia/living-in-chinas-expanding-deserts.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=photo-spot-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news>

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/10/25/world/asia/china-climate-change-resettlement.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=photo-spot-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&r=0>

Founded in 1959, the Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS) at the University of Kansas is the only East Asian resource center in the Great Plains region. Educational outreach is a key component of the Center's mission. You can find lesson plans and many other materials online at <http://ceas.ku.edu/educator-resources>. If you're a teacher who would like to add East Asia content to your lessons across all curriculum areas, sign up for Outreach Notes at <http://ceas.ku.edu/email-list>.