

Our Learning Keys

Journey down the Amazon

Geography

Year 3

Autumn



Questions

- ➡ Where is South America located in the world? ➡ What countries and capital cities make up South America?
- ➡ What are the main rivers and surrounding oceans of South America?
- ➡ What is the climate and weather like in South America and why might it differ between countries?
- ➡ What are the main similarities and differences between South America and the UK?



Vocabulary

Capital city: The most important city of a country, usually where the central government operates from.
Climate: The regular pattern of weather conditions of a particular place.
Coast: Where the land meets the sea.
Continent: A large area of land that consists of several countries.
Country: An area of land that has or used to have its own government and laws.
Desert: An area that receives very little rain.
Equator: An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North and the South Pole.
Fertile Land: that is good for growing plants.
Human feature: A man-made feature of a place.
Lake: A large area of fresh water surrounded by land.
Location: A place where something happens or exists; the position of something.
Mountain Range: A group of connected mountains.
Physical feature: A natural feature of a place.
Population: The people that live in a place.
Rainforest: A forest that receives a large amount of rain all year round.
Southern Hemisphere: The half of the Earth that is south of the Equator.
Tropical: Hot and humid.
Volcano: A hole in the Earth.



Images



Machu Picchu



The Andes



The Amazon River



Atacama Desert



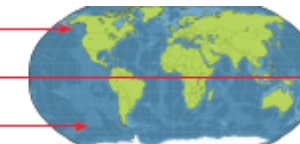
Christ the Redeemer



northern hemisphere

equator

southern hemisphere



Facts

- ➡ South America is a continent. It has 12 countries plus 2 regions that belong to European countries: (1) The Falkland Islands which is a British territory, and (2) French Guiana which is owned by France.
- ➡ The equator runs through the north of the continent. The country Ecuador literally means equator in Spanish.
- ➡ Most of the continent is in the southern hemisphere.
- ➡ All countries in South America speak Spanish apart from Brazil, where they speak Portuguese.
- ➡ Brazil is the largest country in South America and the 5th largest in the world. It covers nearly half the entire continent. Over half the population of South America live in Brazil. Brazil shares a border with every country in South America apart from Chile and Ecuador. The capital city is Brasilia, but Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro are more famous cities.
- ➡ Human Geography: The Christ the Redeemer statue overlooks Rio de Janeiro. This city is also home to the world's largest Carnival, celebrated at the beginning of Lent. Favelas are the housing areas where poor people live. The main religion is Christianity.
- ➡ Physical Geography: Northern Brazil is dominated by the Amazon River and the jungles that surround it. The Amazon is not one river but a network of many hundreds of waterways. Its total length stretches 6,840km. Thousands of species live in the river, including the infamous piranha and the boto, or pink river dolphin.

Previously...

Year 1: Identify the key features of a location.

Year 2: Use world maps, atlases and globes.

Next...

In Years 4, 5 and 6, children will study other countries around the world, North America, Greece and Leighton Buzzard. Also, children will learn about mountains, coasts and rivers.



Links

- ➡ Literacy: Geographical texts
- ➡ History: How have South America's human and physical features changed over time?
- ➡ Maths – coordinates and directional language.

Doors this will open...

Geography teacher.

Geographer.

Cartographer.

Landscape architect.

Travel writer.

Environmental scientist.

Environmental consultant.