

Key Vocabulary

latitude	Geographic coordinate that specifies north or south position of a point
longitude	Geographic coordinate that specifies east or west position of a point
contrast	To compare similarities and differences between two places
continent	An area containing multiple nations
equator	A line following latitude of 0 degrees that splits the earth into northern and southern hemispheres
hemisphere	The northern and southern half of the earth
topography	The arrangement of features of an area
human features	Man-made or human influenced features
physical features	Naturally occurring features

Key Skills

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- Suggest own questions for investigation.
- Carry out investigations with greater emphasis on contrasting and distant places.
- Understand and use a widening range of geographical terms

Human and physical

- Understand the geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the UK, European country and a region within North or South America.



Key Facts

- There are 12 countries in South America and 3 dependencies with a total of more than 385 million people living on the continent.
- South America's rain forests are some of the wettest places on the earth, the Atacama desert in Chile is considered the driest place on earth.
- The South American continent is located in the western hemisphere and mainly in the southern hemisphere.
- Evidence of human life in South America dates back to 10,000 BC. One of the earliest South American civilisations are recorded in Peru.
- The Incas were the largest group of indigenous people in South America when the Europeans arrived.
- **Largest City:** Sao Paulo in Brazil. With more than 22 million inhabitants (2021) Sao Paulo is also one of the ten biggest cities in the world.
- **Longest River:** Amazon River (6,437 km/ 4,000 miles). The Amazon is not only the second longest river in the world after the Nile, but also it carries more water than the world's other 10 biggest rivers combined!
- **Largest Country:** Brazil. The country is covering more than half the continent's landmass.
- **Main natural resources** in South America are minerals such as iron ore (used to make steel) or copper and agricultural produce such as corn, coffee, wheat, soybean and cocoa.
- South America's landscape is dominated from mountains and highlands such as the Andes, river basins such as the Amazon and Orinoco and coastal plains where the Atacama Desert also belongs to.

Key Questions

- Where is South America?
- What are the countries of South America?
- How is South America the same and different to Europe?
- What are the key physical and human features of South America?
- How is South America important to the world?

Links to other Learning

- Reception - Geography
Draw a simple map to get to your destination e.g. Goldilocks journey to the Three Bears house.
- Year 1 - Geography - Name, describe and compare places.
- Year 4 - Geography
To be able to identify settlements and reasons for their original siting.
- Year 5 - Geography
Explain why many cities of the world are situated by rivers.
- KS3 - Geography - human and physical features of Brazil

Links to other Subjects

- Computing
-to locate and name the main countries in South America on a world map and atlas.
- Science
-to make reasoned suggestions.
- Geography
- Make comparisons between a region of the UK and a region in North America.
- Art & Design
-South American weaving/crafts. Drawing and mark making Observational drawings of natural objects to develop drawings with pencil (line, tone, shape, light, shade)



Maps of South America

