

Riverside Primary – Geography Knowledge Organiser UKS2 South America

Topic: South America

Phase: UKS2

NC Strand: Locational Knowledge, Place knowledge, Human and Physical geography.

Key Vocabulary:

continent	A very large area of land that consists of many countries. Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australia are the World's continents.
climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of an area.
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole
topographical map	A map which shows show the physical features of an area, such as rivers and mountains.
tectonic plates	Tectonic plates are pieces of land that connect together on the Earth's outer shell.
magma	Magma is rock so hot it has turned to Liquid.
time zone	Time zones give specific areas on the Earth a time of day that is earlier or later than the neighbouring time zones.
population	The whole number of people living in a country, city, or area
physical geography	Physical geography looks at the physical structure and workings of the natural world, including mountains, seas, oceans, rivers, continents,
human geography	Human geography explores the people, communities and cultures of the world.
trade	Trade essentially is when you swap something for something else. In geography, 'trade' means buying and selling goods and services.

Locational Knowledge - Identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time.

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

Human and physical geography - Describe and understand key aspects of **physical geography**, including climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle. **Human geography**, including types of settlement and land use, economic activity, including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals, and water.

South America is made up of 12 countries and 2 separate territories. The Falkland Islands belong to the UK and French Guiana is part of France. The 12 countries are:



Argentina

Guyana

Bolivia

Paraguay

Brazil

Peru

Chile

Suriname

Colombia

Uruguay

Ecuador

Venezuela

Facts!
 South America has an area of **17,840,000km²** and a population of approximately **388 million people**. It is the **fourth largest continent on Earth**.


What do you already know about South America?



How many of these questions do you think you can answer?

What is South America? What countries are there in South America? How big is South America?

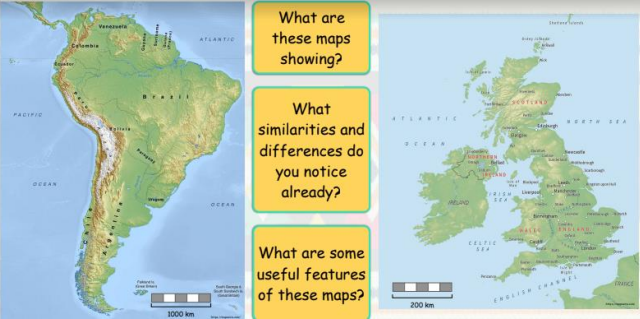
Which seas and oceans surround South America? What languages are spoken in South America?



Mount Aconcagua, the highest mountain in South America

The Andes mountain range runs nearly the whole length of South America. The climate along the Andes changes depending on the location as some places are nearer the equator than others. However, it is not uncommon to have a hot, humid climate very near to a snowy peak in the Andes.

Comparing South America and the UK.



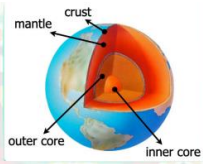
What are these maps showing?

What similarities and differences do you notice already?

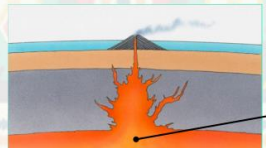
What are some useful features of these maps?



Many of the mountains in the Andes are volcanoes. If there are cracks or weaknesses in the Earth's crust, it allows the magma (rock so hot it has turned to liquid) to escape. This magma then explodes through the crack as a volcanic eruption.




Why do you think the mountains in South America run as one continuous mountain range instead of having mountains dotted around the continent?



The magma builds up in a magma chamber until the pressure is too much and it has to be released.

There are three different types of volcanoes: active, dormant and extinct. Active volcanoes are volcanoes that have erupted in the last 10,000 years and that are expected to erupt again. Dormant volcanoes haven't erupted in that time period but are expected to erupt again some time in the future. Extinct volcanoes are not expected to erupt again.

Tungurahua in Ecuador is one of the most active volcanoes in the Andes.

Climates
 There are several different climates in South America depending on where they are. They vary from hot, tropical climates to cold, snowy climates.

Did you know?
 There are lots of different languages that are spoken in South America. As well as the main languages, there are also many indigenous languages that are spoken in many areas, such as Quechua which is spoken in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador. In Brazil alone, there are around 180 indigenous languages.