

How does the world change around us?

In this unit, children will discover The Americas and all its amazing countries, cities and landscapes. Children will uncover the variety of climates in North and South America. They will explore the various geographical features of different areas and discover the trade and products from South America. Children will explore famous landmarks and create presentations on a specific country.

In this unit children will:

- On a map locate North America and South America, their countries and major cities.
- Use the eight points of a compass to describe places in North America and South America
- Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian, Arctic Circle and time zones (including day and night) in relation to North and South America.
- Describe the key aspects of physical geography of North America: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, and volcanoes and compare it to South America.
- Discover key human features of North and South America.
- Discover the trade and products from South America
- Find out information about a particular city, such as the population, climate and language in North America.
- Compare the human and physical geography of the UK with a specific area of North America.
- Research a chosen country of North or South America and create and deliver a presentation.

Prior Learning

Year 1 Continents and Oceans

Year 4 UK vs Greece (Biomes and Climate)

Cross Curricular Links

History Mayan Civilisation

Guided Reading Holes

Key Vocabulary

biome - A region (part of the earth's surface) defined by a specific climate and certain animals and plants that have adapted to survive and thrive in that climate

climate - the general weather conditions that are typical of an area

continent - a very large area of land that consists of many countries.

equator - an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole

human features - features of land that have been impacted by human activity

landmarks - building or an object that helps you identify a location or the boundary of a piece of land

natives – someone born in a particular region

Northern hemisphere - The half of the Earth that is north of the Equator.

physical features – natural features of land such as mountains, deserts and rivers

Population - The people that live in a place

States – areas of divided land that have different laws. There are 50 different states.

Southern hemisphere - The half of the

Key Knowledge

- North America is the third largest continent and includes 23 countries.
- There are different climate zones across North America, the further north you go the colder it becomes and the further south you go the warmer it becomes.
- North America has so many climate zones as the continent is so large.
- The population of North America is around 579 million.
- South America is the 4th largest continent with many countries in it.
- It has 12 countries and 2 separate territories; The Falkland Island belongs to the UK and French Guiana is part of France.
- The population in South America is approximately 388 million.
- There are five time zones in South America.
- The equator runs through the South American countries Ecuador, Brazil and Colombia.

Goldengate Bridge



Location:

San Francisco
California



Languages in The Americas

English is most widely spoken in North America. Spanish and French are spoken by many as second language in the USA. While Spanish is the most common first language in the Caribbean, French is the first language of 20% of the Canadian population. Spanish and Portuguese are spoken South America.

Key Questions

- How many states are in North America?
- Can you name 3 landmarks of the Americas?
- What are the climate zones in North America?
- What are the languages spoken in North and South America?
- Can you name 3 human features of The Americas?