







South America

Physical Features

<p>Amazon Rainforest</p> 	<p>This is the world's largest rainforest, taking up 5.5million km² and most of north-western Brazil, extending into Colombia, Peru and other countries. It is famous for its biodiversity.</p>
<p>The Andes</p> 	<p>The Andes are the longest mountain range in the world forming a continuous highland in the west, passing through 7 countries from Venezuela in the north to Chile and Argentine in the south.</p>
<p>Galapagos Islands</p> 	<p>Part of the Republic of Ecuador, this volcanic archipelago are known for their many species of plants and animals studied by Charles Darwin which contributed to his theory of evolution.</p>
<p>Lake Titicaca</p> 	<p>A large, deep lake in the Andes on the border of Peru and Bolivia. Once inhabited by the Incas between 1200A.D. and 1400A.D., they have even found an underwater temple here.</p>

Human Features

<p>Deforestation</p> 	<p>Industrial-scale cattle ranching, soybean production and logging for wood (e.g. mahogany) for the world market means the Amazon has lost 20% off its trees in the last 40 years at a rate of 20,000km² per year.</p>
<p>Machu Picchu</p> 	<p>Located in southern Peru, on a 2430m high mountain ridge, archaeologists believe it was constructed as an estate for an Inca emperor. Built around 1450A.D., it could home up to 750 people, mostly working as servants to the emperor and keeping llamas and alpacas.</p>

Tallest Mountains



Aconcagua (Argentina) 6962m
 Ojos del Salado (Chile) 6893m
 Monte Pissis (Argentina) 6793m

Longest Rivers

Amazon (Brazil) – 6400km
 Paraná (Brazil/Paraguay) – 4880km
 Madeira (Brazil) – 3380km







Key Vocabulary

state	A political entity which forms part of the United States of America – there are 50 in total and they each have their own laws
North America	A continent in the Northern Hemisphere
South America	A continent mostly in the Southern Hemisphere with a small part in the Northern Hemisphere
Northern Hemisphere	The half of the Earth that is north of the Equator
Southern Hemisphere	The half of the Earth that is south of the Equator
Route 66	One of the first national highways for motor vehicles in the United States





North America

Physical Features

<p>The Arctic Circle</p> 	<p>One of the two polar circles on Earth. This one is in the north and consists of the Arctic Ocean and extends to Canada, Greenland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, the U.S.A. (Alaska), Denmark, Iceland and Russia. Conditions are freezing cold creating large sheets of ice.</p>
<p>The Grand Canyon</p> 	<p>An enormous carved canyon in the ground formed by the Colorado River, which began 5-6 million years ago. It runs 1800m deep and 18 miles wide and is in Arizona in western U.S.A.</p>
<p>The Rocky Mountains</p> 	<p>'The Rockies' are a major mountain range, spanning 3000km, in the west running through Canada and the United States. The range offers dramatic wilderness, diverse wildlife/alpine lakes.</p>
<p>Central America</p> 	<p>There are 7 countries: Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. Guatemala is famed for its ancient Mayan ruins. It is a significantly poorer region compared to the northern countries.</p>

Human Features

<p>The 50 States.</p> 	<p>The United States of America has the largest economy in the world and, because of its enormous size, is divided into 50 different states. Each state has their own laws. This is why there are 50 stars on the national flag.</p>
<p>Sports and Recreation</p> 	<p>Sports in the U.S.A. define much of its culture and many sports are played exclusively to the country including American Football, baseball, ice hockey and basketball. Many more countries have since developed these too.</p>

Longest Rivers

Mississippi (U.S.A.) – 3778km
 Missouri (U.S.A) – 3767km
 Yukon (Canada) 3190km



Tallest Mountains



Denali (Alaska) 6190m
 Mount Logan (Canada) 5959m
 Pico de Orizaba (Mexico) 5636m