

Central; and South America  
KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER YEAR 5/6



Central America

South America's extreme geographic variation contributes to the continent's large number of biomes. A biome is a community of animals and plants that spreads over an area with a relatively uniform climate.



**Brazil** is the largest country in South America and the 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Brazil was colonised by the Portuguese in 1530. It regained independence in 1822.



The Andes



The Amazon River



Atacama Desert

Physical Geography

Physical geography relates to geography that is naturally occurring.

It studies the natural environment and landscapes of our planet.

**General information:** 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.



**Peru** is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest country in South America. The capital city is Lima. The official languages are Spanish and Quechua (a native language).

**Human Geography:** Mainly Cristian. Almost 70% of people live in cities. Machu Picchu is a famous ancient city which is now a popular tourist attraction. It was built by the Incas who lived in Peru about 600 years ago before the Spanish invaded in 1532.

**Physical Geography:** Nearly 1/3 the country is covered by the Amazon rainforest. Peru is also home to the Andes mountains – the world's 2<sup>nd</sup> highest mountain range.



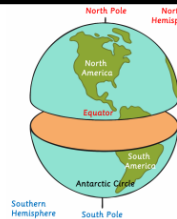
**Argentina** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest country in South America and 8<sup>th</sup> largest in the world. The capital city is Buenos Aires and the majority of the population speak Spanish.

**Human Geography:** Nearly 1/2 the population live in and around the capital city. Tourism is important to the country, but the country gets most of its money from farming (agriculture).

**Physical Geography:** The Andes sit on the west of the country on the border with Chile. The eastern border is the Atlantic Ocean. Iguazu Falls is a famous waterfall in the north.



The rocky and nearly treeless Falkland Islands lie 300 miles (480 kilometers) northeast of the southern tip of South America. The islands are an overseas territory of the United Kingdom.



Argentina's Patagonia National Park

Created in 2015, Argentina's Patagonia National Park shares the same name as a new national park just over the border in Chile. At 444,680 acres, it's over twice as large as New York City. A quarter of the park already has national park status, while the rest remains under restoration by the nonprofit Conservation Land Trust (CLT Argentina).

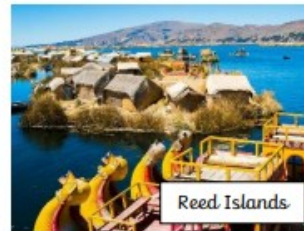
In the middle of the Patagonian steppe, its landscape of rainbow hills, big mesas and serpentine trails is a dead ringer for the deserts of the Southwestern US. But it's also uniquely Argentinian, a region where endemic species are making a comeback and where the shadows of past civilizations are still painted on rock walls.

UK's Lake District National Park

Key Knowledge	
Where is the Lake District?	The Lake District is in the northwest of England in the county of Cumbria.
What is the physical geography of the Lake District like?	The physical geography of the Lake District can include hills, mountains, forests, valleys, rivers, tarns and lakes. It can also include the water cycle.
What is the human geography of the Lake District like?	The human geography of the Lake District can include types of settlement e.g. towns and villages, how the land is used e.g. farming and how the district makes money e.g. tourism.
What do we mean by referring to the Lake District as a National Park?	A National Park is a protected area because of wildlife, beautiful countryside or cultural heritage. The Lake District as a National Park, welcome visitors so that everyone can enjoy these areas of natural beauty.



Christ the Redeemer



Reed Islands



Machu Picchu

Human Geography

Human geography relates to human activity or something that is humanly-constructed.

It studies the interaction between human activity and the planet.