Norwood Green Junior School - Geography

Topic: South America and The Amazon | **Year Five (5)** | **Spring 1**

What should I already know?

How Can You Compare Different Places?

Physical Geography	Human Geography
The natural features of a place or environment.	Features of an environment that have been shaped by people.
• oceans and coastlines	• country/region boundaries
• rivers and lakes	• buildings, roads and land use
• mountains and volcanoes	• changes to river courses
• flora and fauna	• language/signs
• land-form	• religion, government, art and music

Diagrams

The New Seven Wonders of the World

Angel Falls, Venezuela

Amazon Rainforest, Brazil

Christ the Redeemer, Brazil

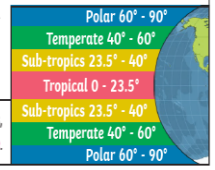
Machu Picchu, Peru

Key Knowledge/Diagrams

Climate Groups

The Köppen System is a climate classification system. It is split into five main groups which each consist of a range of climate types:

- Temperate - hot dry summers, and cooler wetter winters, Mediterranean e.g. United Kingdom
- Continental - long, cold winters and short, hot summers, inland areas e.g parts of Turkey
- Polar - long periods of extreme cold, tundra, ice cap e.g. Antarctica
- Tropical - hot and humid, wet, rainforest e.g. Brazil
- Dry - arid, desert e.g. Saudi Arabia



The four main climate zones, determined by latitude.

Important Facts

- The Americas are two separate **continents** consisting of North America and South America.
- The Americas cover a huge area of the globe, extending over several lines of **latitude** and **longitude**.
- The characteristics of different countries and regions vary significantly, including **weather**, land use and **flora** and **fauna**.
- The major countries of South America include Brazil, Colombia, Argentina, Chile, Peru and Ecuador.
- South America has the most diverse range of plants and animals in the world. Fauna includes jaguars, alpacas, condors and anacondas. Flora includes the passionfruit vine, tomato, ombu and the incredibly tough yareta.
- South America is located to the west of The United Kingdom on the opposite side of the vast Atlantic Ocean

South America is the fourth largest continent in the world. It is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west. It is connected to North America by the region of Central America. Important geographical features include the Amazon Rainforest and the Andes Mountains.

Peru is a major country in South America. It is located on the west coast of the continent and shares a border with five countries. The capital city is Lima. Peru features the high Andes Mountains and the Amazon Rainforest within its borders. Peru is the site of the famous Incan ruin, Machu Picchu.

Colombia is located at the northern tip of South America. It is named after the famous explorer, Christopher Columbus. Colombia is the second most populous country in South America and is home to a huge variety of animals including condors, pink river dolphins and the rare spotted bear.

Argentina is located on the east coast of South America. The capital city is Buenos Aires. The Andes Mountains forms the border between Argentina and neighbouring Chile. Argentina also claims a triangular wedge of Antar ctica

Brazil is a major country in South America. It is the largest country, most populous and has the biggest economy on the continent. Sao Paolo is the largest city in Brazil. Important geographical features include the Amazon River and the Amazon Rainforest.

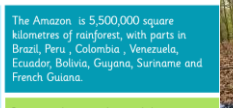
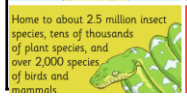
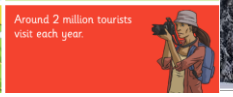
Vocabulary

Biomes	A large geographical area which is home to certain plants and animals, specially adapted to suit the environment.
South America	South America, fourth largest of the world's continents. It is the southern portion of the landmass generally referred to as the New World
Continent	A large landmass made up of many **countries**.
Equator	An imaginary line around the globe at **latitude** 0° north dividing the earth into northern and southern hemispheres.
Flora/Fauna	Plant and animal life.
Latitude	Distance north or south of the equator measured in degrees. A region marked by its distance north or south of the equator cold latitudes
Longitude	Distance measured in degrees east or west of an imaginary line that runs from the north pole to the south pole and passes through England.
Weather	The specific atmospheric conditions on a given day including temperature and rainfall.
Climate	The long term average weather in a place over many years.
The Amazon	A rainforest, covering much of north western Brazil, Colombia, Peru and other South American countries, is the world's largest rainforest.
The Andes	A longest continental mountain range in the world. Alongside the western edge of South America.

What will I know by the end of this unit?

By the end of this topic you will be able to understand the similarities and differences of the human and physical geography of a region in South America. To understand what life is like in the Amazon and how it is changing.

The Amazon Rainforest



It previously covered a much larger area and was densely populated.