South America

South America is the world's 4th largest continent. It sits below North America and is surrounded by the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. The population of South America is approximately 423 million and this continues to grow each year. are 12 countries in South America. There The largest country is Brazil which takes up almost half of the land area and population of the whole continent.



Climate

The weather in South America varies a great deal because it is such a large continent. Most of the continent is warm for the majority of the year. It rarely gets too cold except in higher, mountainous areas where the temperature can drop below freezing.

South America has a tropical climate and most of the continent receives plenty of rain each year. However, there are some places that are actually the driest areas on Earth.

Did You Know...?
Brazil is so big that it is almost the same size as the whole of the USA!



Natural Wonders

There are many natural wonders in South America.

The Amazon Rainforest – this is the largest tropical rainforest in the world and is home to thousands of species of wildlife. More than half of the rainforest is located in Brazil.



The Amazon River – this is the second longest river in the world and runs for approximately 4000 miles.

The Atacama Desert – this is the driest desert in the world and is 600 miles long. It is in Chile which sits on the west coast of South America.

The Andes – this is the world's longest mountain range and stretches across many South American countries. The highest peak is Aconcagua which is 6962m tall.

Cape Horn – this is a narrow piece of rocky land that sits off the southern tip of South America where the Pacific and Atlantic oceans meet.

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Questions

1. South America is… Highlight your answer.

   - ○ a country
   - ○ a capital city
   - ○ a continent
   - ○ an ocean

2. How many countries are in South America? Highlight your answer.

   - ○ 4
   - ○ 12
   - ○ 423
   - ○ 600

3. What is the largest country in South America?

4. Explain in your own words how the climate in South America varies.

5. Draw lines to match the names of these natural wonders to the fact about them:

The Amazon River		this landmark is 600 miles long
The Andes		this is a thin piece of rocky land
The Atacama Desert		this is approximately 4000 miles long
The Amazon Rainforest		Aconagua is this landmark's highest peak
Cape Horn		more than half of this is located in Brazil

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6. What country is the Atacama Desertin?

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7. How tall is Aconcagua? Tick **one.**

- ○ 6296m
- ○ 9629m
- ○ 2969m
- ○ 6962m

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