

Year 4 Geography Assessment: Exploring South America

Learning objective: To assess understanding of South American physical and human geography, including climate zones, biomes, and environmental features.

Read each question carefully. Use your geographical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Remember to use capital letters for names of countries and continents.

Finn the dolphin has been busy mapping the diverse landscapes of South America. From the snow-capped peaks of the longest mountain range on the continent to the dense, humid basin of the world's largest tropical rainforest, he has discovered that South America is a land of incredible geographical contrast. The Equator passes through the northern part of the continent, influencing the tropical weather patterns found there.

Word bank: Amazon Rainforest · Andes · Equator · Climate · Biome · Deforestation · Tributary · Hemisphere

- 1. Name two countries located in South America. (2 marks)**

- 2. Explain why the climate near the Equator is generally hot and humid throughout the year. (2 marks)**

- 3. Identify the mountain range that runs along the western edge of South America and describe one physical feature of this range. (3 marks)**

- 4. Compare and contrast the climate of the Amazon Rainforest with the climate of a high-altitude region in the Andes. Justify your answer using geographical vocabulary. (4 marks)**

- 5. What might happen to the local ecosystem if large areas of the Amazon Rainforest were cleared for farming? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks)**

6. Describe the journey of the Amazon River. Where does it begin, and into which ocean does it flow? (3 marks)

7. Write a short report (5 marks) explaining the importance of the Amazon Rainforest to the global environment. Consider the role of trees in the water cycle and the variety of species that live there. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram showing the layers of the Amazon Rainforest (Emergent, Canopy, Understory, and Forest Floor).



Extension challenge: Research a specific environmental challenge currently facing South America. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining how local communities are working to protect their natural heritage. Total: /25