

Exploring South America with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify key geographical features, countries, and climates of South America as per the Year 4 Geography curriculum.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of South America. Read the question on the front, think of your answer, then check the back to see if you are correct!

What is the name of the vast, biodiverse rainforest that covers much of northern South America?

The Amazon Rainforest.

Which major mountain range runs along the western edge of South America?

The Andes.

Name the two oceans that border the continent of South America.

The Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west.

Which imaginary line passes through the northern part of South America, meaning the climate is often hot and tropical?

The Equator.

What is the largest country in South America by land area?

Brazil.

Define the geographical term 'tributary'.

A smaller river or stream that flows into a larger river.

Explain why the climate in the high Andes mountains is different from the climate in the Amazon Basin.

The Andes are at a much higher altitude, which makes the air colder, whereas the Amazon Basin is near the Equator and experiences a hot, tropical climate.

Compare and contrast the physical geography of the west coast of South America with the east coast.

The west coast is dominated by the steep, rugged Andes mountains, while the east coast has more lowlands, plains, and coastal areas.

Justify why the Amazon Rainforest is often called 'the lungs of the planet'.

It is called this because the vast number of trees absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide and release oxygen into the atmosphere.

What might happen to the animals living in the Amazon if the river's flow were to be significantly reduced?

Habitats would be destroyed, food sources would disappear, and the ecosystem would struggle to support the diverse species that rely on the water.

Explain the significance of South America being located mostly in the Southern Hemisphere.

Being in the Southern Hemisphere means the seasons are the opposite of those in the Northern Hemisphere (e.g., it is summer in December).

If you were planning an expedition, why would you need to research the 'climate zone' of your destination?

To know what equipment, clothing, and supplies are necessary to stay safe and comfortable in different weather conditions.