

Knowledge Organiser for Year 6 - The Americas

Big question: What is it like in North and South America?

National curriculum specification

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities.
- Identify the position and significance of equator, northern hemisphere and southern hemisphere, the tropics of cancer and Capricorn.
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region within North or South America.
- Use maps, atlases and globes to locate countries and describe features studied.
- Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key to build their knowledge of the UK and the wider world.



Key facts/figures

North America

- There are 23 countries in North America, including USA, Canada, Mexico, Cuba and Costa Rica.
- United States of America (USA) is divided into 50 states.
- Canada is divided into 10 provinces.
- North America is about 38 times larger than the UK.
- Missouri River is the longest river in North America, at 2341 miles long.
- There is no land-locked country in North America.
- The Yosemite Falls are North America's highest waterfalls.
- The Rockies are among the longest mountain ranges in the world.

Famous landmarks

Natural:

- Grand Canyon, USA
- Niagara Falls, USA/ Canada
- Redwood National Park, USA
- Mauna Kea, Hawaii

	<p>Man-made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statue of Liberty, USA - Golden Gate Bridge, USA - Chichen Itza, Mexico - Empire State Building, USA
South America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - South America is the fourth largest continent. - There are 12 countries in South America, including Brazil, Peru, Argentina and Venezuela. - Brazil is the largest country in South America, covering more than half the continent's land mass. - The Amazon River is the second longest river in the world (4000 miles). - Spanish is the most widely spoken language in South America. <p>Tourist attractions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Macchu Picchu, Peru - Iguazu Falls, Brazil and Argentina - Angel Falls, Venezuela - Rio de Janeiro and its carnival, Brazil - Amazon, Ecuador

Key vocabulary/Tier 3	
Colony	a group of people from one country who build a settlement in another territory, or land.
Province	a district, territory, or region.
State	a nation or territory considered as an organised political community under one government.
Northern Hemisphere	Everything north of the equator.
Southern Hemisphere	Everything south of the equator.
Equator	An imaginary line running horizontally through the Earth, dividing the earth into northern and southern hemispheres.