Walk On Water

St. Paul's C of E VA Primary and Nursery School

Geography Curriculum Coverage Year 5

South America and the Rainforest

Key Vocabulary
agriculture
atlas
biodiversity
biome
climate
conservation
deforestation
developed
drought
economy
environment
equator
fair trade
habitat
human features
landscape
natural resource
nomadic
population
physical features
settlement
soil erosion
sustainability
tropical rainforest

Physical Geography

Know the five longest rivers in the world:

- **Nile** (6700km) *Africa*
- **Amazon** (6400km) *South America*
- **Yangtze** (6300km) *Asia*
- **Mississippi-Missouri** (6000km) *North America*
- **Yenisei-Angara-Selenga** (5500km) *Europe/Asia*

View aerial photographs of these rivers.

Amazon River

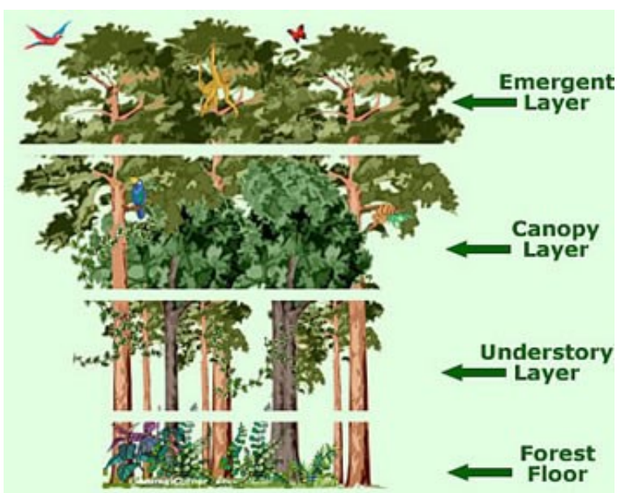
Located in South America
Starts in the Andes Mountains of Peru and travels through Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Brazil before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean.
So long that it flows through completely different **environments** and **landscapes** on its journey to the sea.
Flows through the Amazon Rainforest.
Use an **atlas** and map reading skills to plot the Amazon River on a map.

Amazon Rainforest

A **tropical rainforest** is a kind of **biome** and the world is made up of different **biomes**.
A **biome** is a large area of the earth that has its own environment.
Biomes have different plants and animals, which are suited to living in their **environment**.
Tropical rainforests are located along the **equator**, due to the amount of sunshine and rainfall these areas have.
Located in the north of South America, along the **equator**..
Parts of the Amazon rainforest are in Brazil, Peru, Columbia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia and Guyana (the majority of the Amazon Rainforest is located within Brazil).
Rainforests also exist in: North America, Africa, Asia and Oceania following the equator.
Tropical rainforest biomes contain more species of animals and plants than any other biome in their all year round hot and wet **climate**.
Rainforests are wet and are home to half of the world's plants and animals.

Key Information

Geography of the Amazon.
Names and locations of the seven continents: **Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Oceania (Australia)** and **Antarctica**.
Names of the countries in South America – Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Perú, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela.
Use an atlas and map reading skills to locate these countries on a map of South America.
Location of the **equator** and the **Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn** - lines of **latitude**.
Identify **Northern and Southern Hemispheres** and that South America is located in the Southern Hemisphere.
Amazon River and the Amazon rainforest are located in South America.



Human Geography

Settlement

Settlements are places where people live and sometimes work.
There are different types of settlement, depending on how many people live and work there.
Within the Amazon rainforest, there are different types of **settlement**.
There are **developed** areas with a few cities and towns, where there is a high **population**.
People living outside of the cities and towns, live in developing, small settlements within the rainforest.
Many of these settlements are **nomadic**, meaning that people move around and don't stay in one area for too long.
Tribes living in the rainforest often use the natural resources in an area and when they have run out, they move their settlement to a new area with more resources.
Compare two types of settlements within the Amazon Rainforest and the impact that might have on way of life e.g. Manaus and Yanomami Tribe Settlement.

Deforestation

'Deforestation' - 'the action of clearing a large area of trees'.
Forests are cut down for two reasons:
1. So that the wood from trees can be sold, as it is a valuable natural resource.
The rainforest is home to a unique variety of tree species. Hardwoods such as teak or mahogany are strong and so are perfect for building and for making furniture. However, these trees are slow growing and are not easy to re-place. Some wood is also used for making paper, building materials or used as fuel.
2. To clear land for farming.
Cattle grazing: *this provides meat for restaurants and supermarkets. Crops: such as sugar cane and palm oil.*
Every 20 minutes, an area of rainforest the size of 20 football pitches is cut down. If this rate continues, there will be no rainforests in 100 years.

Know that every 20 minutes, an area of rainforest the size of 20 football pitches is cut down. If this rate continues, there will be no rainforests in 100 years.

Impact of deforestation including:
Lack of biodiversity: The number of different species becomes smaller.
Soil erosion: Tree roots help hold the soil and prevent it being washed away. Without trees, the soil is washed into rivers and streams, blocking them, causing flooding and contaminated drinking water.
Climate change: Scientists believe deforestation has a worldwide effect on climate. Trees store carbon dioxide. When they are cut down, carbon dioxide builds up in the atmosphere and is known as a greenhouse gas which causes global warming.
Droughts: Trees are an important part of the water cycle. Without them, there will be a lack of rain.
Habitat loss: Animals and plants lose their home so some may become endangered or extinct.

Trade and Economy

The term '**economy**' as 'the system of money, jobs and trade within a country or region'.
The South American economy consists primarily of **agriculture**, forestry, industry and mining.
The range of agricultural products that we use from the South American continent including: coffee, soybeans, wheat, rice, corn, sugarcane, cocoa, citrus, beef, bananas and shrimp.

Conservation and Sustainability

It is important that humans act to save the rainforest. We can help protect the rainforest in a number of ways:
Planting new trees in locations where the forest has been cut down.
Create protected parks within the rainforest, to stop the tree from being cut down in those areas.
There are ways in which everyone can help protect the rainforest:
Buying **Fair Trade** products as these will ensure that the rainforest was not damaged in the making of the product.
Don't buy products containing palm oil, as this is one of the items grown in **deforestation** areas.

National Curriculum—Key Stage 2

Pupils should extend their knowledge and understanding beyond the local area to include the United Kingdom and Europe, North and **South America. This will include the location and characteristics of a range of the world's most significant human and physical features. They should develop their use of geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to enhance their locational and place knowledge.**

Pupils should be taught to:

Locational knowledge

locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and **South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics,** countries, and major cities name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, **key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns;** and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time

identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)

Place knowledge

understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or **South America**

Human and physical geography

describe and understand key aspects of:

physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle

human geography, including: **types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water**

Geographical skills and fieldwork

use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world Geography
use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.