

Y5 – The Americas

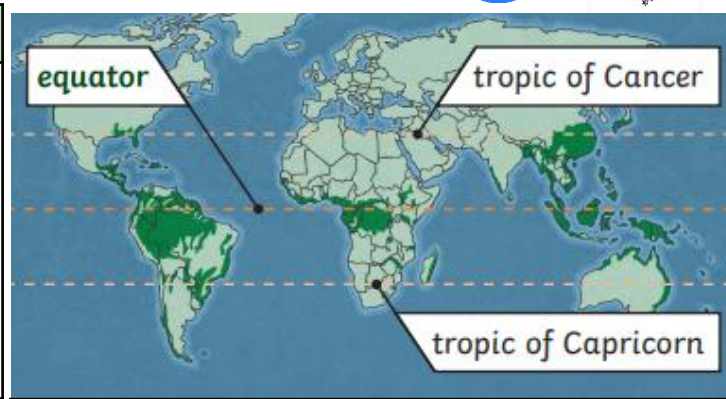
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What are the features of North and South America?



ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY	
climate	The average weather conditions over a period of time
continent	A large area of land made up of many countries
country	An area controlled by its own government
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth
tropics	The regions of Earth that lie roughly in the middle of the globe
states	The USA is split into 50 states, which have control over their own area
tropic of Cancer	The northern tropic
tropic of Capricorn	The southern tropic
national park	An area of the countryside protected by law
latitude	Imaginary parallel lines which circle the globe from east to west
longitude	Imaginary lines which run north to south across the globe from pole to pole
time zones	We split the globe into time zones using imaginary lines called meridians.
Greenwich / Prime Meridian	The prime meridian is the imaginary line that divides Earth into two equal parts.






Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The region of the Earth's surface that is closest to the equator is called the tropics Two imaginary lines that circle the globe mark the boundaries of the tropics The line called the Tropic of Cancer marks the northern edge The line called the Tropic of Capricorn marks the southern edge The sun shines straight down on the tropics, so they are generally warmer than other parts of Earth. Most tropical places experience wet and dry seasons



North and South America
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Americas are two separate continents, North and South America North America contains 23 different countries South America contains 12 countries

Greenwich/Prime Meridian
<p>It takes 24 hours for the Earth to rotate once on its axis. We split the globe into time zones using imaginary lines called meridians. They run from the North Pole to the South Pole, crossing lines of latitude. There are 24 time zones. There is an imaginary line running through the UK called the Prime Meridian. It runs through a place in London called Greenwich. The Prime Meridian splits the world into eastern and western hemispheres.</p>

Countries of North America and South America
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North America contains 23 countries including: United States, Canada, Mexico South America contains 12 countries including: Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador

Human features of North and South America
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disney World (United States) Gold Gate Bridge (United States) Statue of Liberty (United States) Christ the Redeemer (Brazil) Puente De La Mujer (Argentina)
    

National Parks	Yellowstone	Lake District
Location	Wyoming, USA	Cumbria, United Kingdom
Animals	Bears, bison, elk, mountain wolves, bald eagles, bighorn sheep, moose	Red squirrel, red deer, golden eagle, highland cow, otter, herd wick sheep
Climate	Varied depending on location throughout the park. Summer: warm and sunny Winter: cold and snowy	Mild winters and cool summers. Generally similar throughout the park.
Topography	Lakes, mountains, rivers, canyons, volcanic plateaus	Valleys, lakes, mountains

Physical features of North and South America	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grand Canyon (United States) Niagara Falls (United States and Canada) Yellowstone National Park (United States) Torres Del Paine National Park (Chile) Maroni River (French Guiana) 	   



Did you know? North and South America take up 8.3% of the Earth's surface.

Fascinating fact! Canada is the largest country in North America, but USA has the biggest population.