

Disciplinary Knowledge (Being a Geographer)	<u>Investigate Places</u> • Children will collect and analyse statistics and other information in order to draw clear conclusions about locations. • Children will identify and describe how the physical features affect the human activity within a location. • Children will use a range of geographical resources to give detailed descriptions and opinions of the characteristic features of a location. • Children will analyse and give views on the effectiveness of different geographical representations of a location • Children will name and locate some of the countries and cities of the world and their identifying human and physical characteristics, including hills, mountains, rivers, key topographical features and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time. • Children will name and locate the countries of North and South America and identify their main physical and human characteristics <u>Investigate Patterns</u> • Children will identify and describe the geographical significance of latitude, longitude, equator, northern hemisphere, southern hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, and time zones (including day and night). • Children will understand some of the reasons for geographical similarities and differences between countries. • Children will describe how locations around the world are changing and explain some of the reasons for change. • Children will describe geographical diversity across the world. <u>Communicate Geographically</u> • Children will describe and understand key aspects of: • physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers and mountains.	<u>Investigate Places</u> • Children will collect and analyse statistics and other information in order to draw clear conclusions about locations. • Children will identify and describe how the physical features affect the human activity within a location. • Children will use a range of geographical resources to give detailed descriptions and opinions of the characteristic features of a location. • Children will analyse and give views on the effectiveness of different geographical representations of a location • Children will name and locate some of the countries and cities of the world and their identifying human and physical characteristics, including hills, mountains, rivers, key topographical features and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time. • Children will name and locate the countries of North and South America and identify their main physical and human characteristics <u>Investigate Patterns</u> • Children will identify and describe the geographical significance of latitude, longitude, equator, northern hemisphere, southern hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, and time zones (including day and night). • Children will understand some of the reasons for geographical similarities and differences between countries. • Children will describe how locations around the world are changing and explain some of the reasons for change. • Children will describe geographical diversity across the world. <u>Communicate Geographically</u> • Children will describe and understand key aspects of: • physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers and mountains.
Substantive Knowledge	<u>Location</u> North America is the third largest continent. The 49° N latitude forms the boundary between the two largest countries – the USA and	<u>Location</u> South America is a continent made up of 12 countries. Its largest country is Brazil, which covers more than half the continent's

Canada. The Great Lakes and St Lawrence River act as the boundary between the two countries. Lake Superior is the largest fresh water lake in the world. Mount Mackenzie – an active volcano situated in Alaska – is the highest peak of North America. The world-famous Niagara Falls is located between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario

North America is a continent in the northern hemisphere and mostly within the western hemisphere. It is bordered to the north by the Arctic Ocean, to the east by the Atlantic Ocean, to the west (where it is separated from Asia by the Bering Strait) and south by the Pacific Ocean, and to the southeast by South America and the Caribbean Sea

Diversity

Every climate zone can be found in North America as it extends to within 10° of latitude of both the equator and the North Pole. The biomes in North America include: tropical rainforests and savannah on the lowlands of Central America, and areas of permanent ice cap in central Greenland. These differences contribute to a diverse set of agricultural resources. In the tropical zones of North America, farmers harvest oranges, sugar cane, coffee, cocoa and bananas. Fruits, vegetables and cotton are predominant in the warm, sub-tropical zones of northern Mexico and the United States. The continent's cool temperate zones are ideal for fruits, such as apples and peaches. These areas are also suitable for cattle and corn agriculture.

Population (Diversity and Human Features)

Before the arrival of Europeans in the 1500s and 1600s, the population of North America consisted of Native American tribes in the United States, and the Aztec and Mayan civilisations in what is now Mexico. In the 1600s, Europeans quickly colonised much of North America. Now the indigenous peoples are far fewer and the majority of people have a European heritage.

North America has an estimated population of 580 million. The most populous cities are:

1. Mexico City, Mexico
2. New York City, USA
3. Los Angeles, USA
4. Chicago, USA
5. Toronto, Canada

The northern half of North America – Canada and Greenland – is sparsely populated. This is largely due to the sub-polar and polar

landmass. Brazil is only slightly smaller than the USA. The smallest country is Suriname, one of the ten most sparsely populated countries in the world. The biggest island is Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire), at the southern tip of Argentina and Chile. Bolivia and Paraguay are both landlocked countries. Lake Titicaca (shared by Bolivia and Peru) is the continent's biggest lake.

It is located in the western hemisphere and mainly in the southern hemisphere. It is bordered to the north by the continent of North America and the Caribbean Sea; to the west by the Pacific Ocean; to the east by the Atlantic Ocean and to the south by the Southern Ocean.

Diversity

While South America's rainforests are some of the wettest places on Earth, the Atacama Desert in Chile is considered the driest place on Earth. The Incas were the largest group of indigenous people in South America when the Europeans arrived. The Incan Empire lasted from 1438 until 1533. Indigenous cultures are still present in South America but their numbers are getting smaller. There are still Arawaks and Caribs in Venezuela, and Guarani in Brazil. Spanish is the main language in South American countries, but in Brazil people speak Portuguese. In Suriname, formerly a Dutch colony, the official language is Dutch. Many people speak English as a second language. Quechua, the language spoken by the Inca, is the most common indigenous language.

Population (Diversity and Human Features)

The population of South America is estimated to be 432 million – about 5.6 per cent of the total world population. The median age in South America is 30.5 years. The image opposite shows the continent's busiest city – São Paulo in Brazil.

The most populous country in South America is Brazil, with 207.7 million people. The second largest country is Colombia with a population of 48.6 million, followed by Argentina with 43.8 million.

The largest city in South America is São Paulo, Brazil.

The five most populous cities are:

- 1) São Paulo, Brazil – 21.7 million
- 2) Buenos Aires, Argentina – 15.1 million
- 3) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – 13.4 million
- 4) Bogotá, Colombia – 10.6 million
- 5) Lima, Peru – 10.4 million

	climate zones which makes agriculture, transport and living more difficult. Mexico City is the largest city, both in size and population. Its population is 21.3 million, which makes it the largest metropolitan area of the western hemisphere and the largest Spanish-speaking city in the world. <u>Rivers</u> There are hundreds of rivers across North America. They are vital for irrigation for agriculture, fishing, the generation of hydro-electricity and as navigation routes for shipping. Rivers are also sacred to the Native American indigenous peoples who, for centuries before European colonisation, learnt to use this limited, precious resource wisely. <u>Mountains</u> A topographic map shows the mountainous areas of North America. The western coastline is dominated by the Rocky Mountain chain. This is also the location of a tectonic plate boundary and the mountains are formed through the process of subduction. There is a great deal of seismic activity in this area as it is part of the Pacific Ring of Fire.	Most of the population lives near the continent's western or eastern coasts while the interior and the far south are sparsely populated. The movement of the population from rural to urban areas has sped up the economic growth of the continent's countries. However, on the downside, many of the largest cities of South America are struggling to overcome traffic problems, housing and water shortages, and other high population-related problems. Most (90 per cent) of the South American people follow the Roman Catholic religion. Most of the other main world religions are also present. <u>Rivers</u> South America is home to the largest river basin in the world – the Amazon. It is also home to the Angel Falls waterfall, which is the highest in the world at over 900 m (2,950 ft). This can be found on a tributary to the Orinoco River – the River Chúrún A river basin is the portion of land drained by a river and its tributaries. South America has three important river basins: the Amazon, Orinoco and Paraná. <u>Mountains</u> A topographic map of South America shows the mountainous areas. The western coastline is dominated by the Andes Mountain chain. This is also the location of a tectonic plate boundary and the mountains are formed through the process of subduction. There is a great deal of seismic activity in this area as it is part of the Pacific Ring of Fire.
Vocabulary	latitude: the distance of a place from the equator lowlands: areas of low, flat land agricultural: relating to farming and its methods predominant: larger in number colonised: took control over indigenous: originally from a country populous: with a large population sparsely: with only a small number of people metropolitan: relating to a large city irrigation: watering crops rises begins numerous: many confluence: where two or more rivers join together pesticides: chemicals used to kill insects that eat crops topographic: relating to the physical features of an area subduction: the movement of one tectonic plate below another seismic: relating to earthquakes	landmass: a large continuous area of land sparsely: with only a small number of people landlocked: with no access to the sea indigenous: native to a country colony: a country occupied by another country median: the middle value when arranged in order populous: with a large population sparsely: with only a small number of people river basin: the portion of land drained by a river tributary: a river that flows into another river discharging: flowing into topographic: relating to the physical features of an area subduction: the movement of one tectonic plate below another seismic: relating to earthquakes citadel: in the past – a place of safety or shelter