

Geography Year 6 Autumn — Brazil

Key knowledge to know and use

South America is the fourth largest continent in the world. It is made up of 12 independent countries: Colombia, Bolivia, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Uruguay, Brazil, Paraguay, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, and Ecuador.

The capital of Brazil is Brasília, a planned city that was built in 1960 to be the capital of the country.

There are 5 different climate zones in Brazil—The Equatorial Zone, The Semi-Arid Zone, The Highland Tropical Zone and The Subtropical Zone.

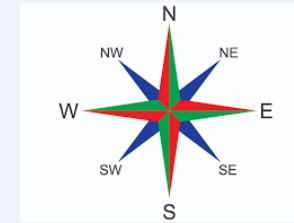
The "Meeting of the Waters" is the point at which the Rio Negro meets the Rio Solimões to form the Amazon River.

In Brazil there are seven different biomes: the Amazon, the Cerrado, the Caatinga, the Pantanal, the Atlantic Forest and the Pampa -or Southern Fields.

The Amazon Rainforest is often called "The Lungs of the Earth" because it produces over 20% of the world's oxygen supply thanks to all of its trees.

Tropical rainforests have four layers: emergent, canopy, understory, forest floor.

Deforestation is occurring in the Amazon Rainforest due to the demand for timber.



Key vocabulary to know and use in

Word	Definition
biome	A large area of the Earth's surface defined by the types of animals and plants living there.
delta	A wide muddy or sandy area where some rivers meet the sea — here the river slows down and drops all the sediment it is carrying.
humidity	The amount of water vapour in the air.
rainforest	A tropical forest, usually of tall, densely growing, broad leaved evergreen trees in an area of high annual rainfall.
emergent layer	The name given to the tops of trees that rise above the rainforest canopy — it is exposed to sunlight here and only the strongest and tallest plants reach this level.
canopy	Overlapping branches and leaves of rainforest trees. Most plant and animal life is found here and it may be over 100 feet (30 m) above the ground
understory	The layer of plants that grow beneath the canopy. It is warm and shaded.
forest floor	The floor beneath the forest trees— it is a warm, dark, damp place; home to ferns, fungi and moss.
deforestation	The removal of a forest from land that is then converted to non-forest use.



Christ the Redeemer is a statue in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil that was built as a symbol of Brazilian Christianity. The statue stands on Corcovada Mountain and has also become a cultural icon of both Rio de Janeiro and Brazil. It is listed as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.