

Owl Geography Knowledge Organiser Term 5

The Americas



Key Objectives

- To compare statistics for cities in North and South America.
- To explore New York City, Los Angeles, Buenos Aires and Lima.
- To understand the main environmental regions in North America, including the Rocky Mountains, Mojave Desert and the Great Lakes.
- To understand the main environmental regions in South America, including the Andes Mountains, Atacama Desert and the Amazon Rainforest.
- To plan a road trip across the Americas with a route that explores the contrasting features of the continents.

Key Vocabulary

Continent	A huge land area with many countries in it, defined by certain unifying characteristics, which may be physical, human, or cultural
City	A location where lots of people come together to live, work and take part in leisure activities; growing / rearing food and making products often happens away from modern cities.
Biomes	Including deserts, forests, grasslands, tundra and aquatic environments, biomes are defined by the climate, soil, organisms, flora and fauna of a large area; each biome consists of many ecosystems whose communities have adapted to the small differences in climate and the environment inside the biome.
North America	North America comprises of 23 countries, including the mainland nations of Canada, Mexico, and the United States, along with Central American and Caribbean nations.
South America	South America comprises 12 sovereign countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.
Desert	Arid land with usually sparse vegetation, such as the Atacama Desert or the Mojave Desert.

Sticky Knowledge

1. North and South America are extremely varied **continents**. Every type of landscape imaginable is there.
2. Many countries make up these continents, and there are many **biomes** (environmental regions).
3. In South America, as well as many coastal cities and settlements, there is the enormous country of Brazil; the Amazon Basin, which crosses eight countries; and the Andes mountains.