

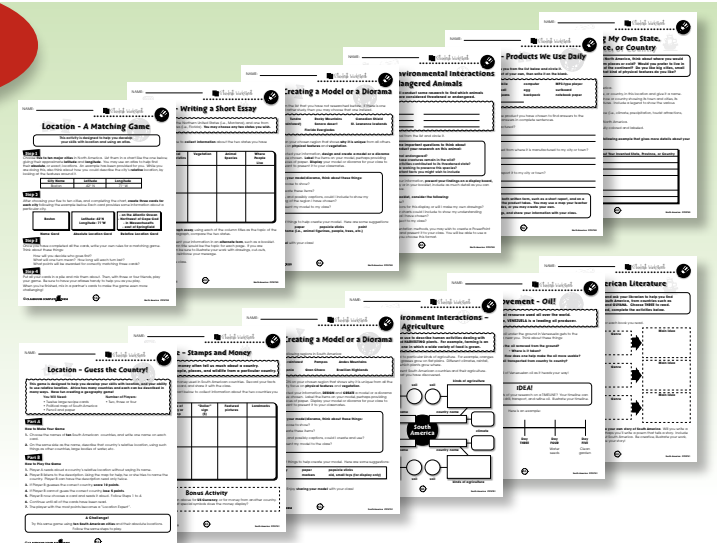
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North America - Place

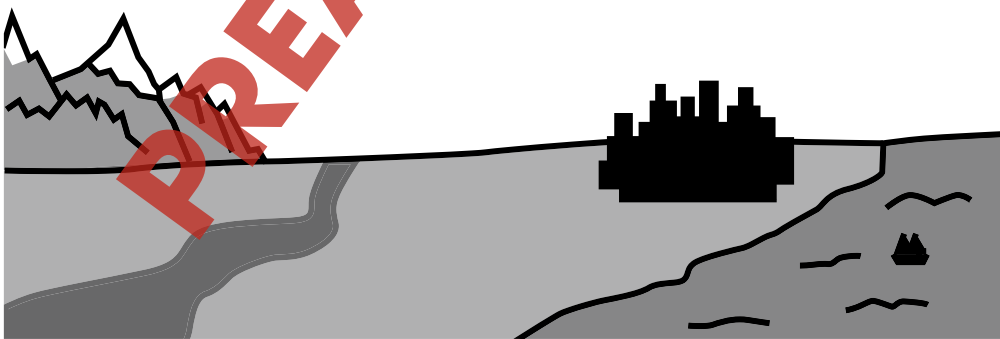
1. Complete each sentence with a word from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

river nation continent route transportation coast

- A is one of the seven large land masses in the world, each characterized by unique features and human interactions.
- Trading goods between countries, and traveling by land, sea, or air, are all dependent upon different forms of .
- Another word for an independent country and its people is .
- A long, moving body of water, with banks on either side, which flows into another larger body of water, such as an ocean or a lake, is called a .
- A is the place where a large body of water, such as an ocean or a sea, meets land. It is sometimes called the seashore.
- A is the path taken from one place to another, whether on land, in the air, or on the water.

2. Label the diagram using the words in the list.

river mountain city plain coast



North America - Place

When we describe **place**, we look at those things that make a place **unique**. Sometimes we tell about the **physical characteristics** of a place, such as mountain **ranges** or valleys. Sometimes we describe the **wildlife** or **vegetation** of a place, while at other times we might identify where and why people live in a certain place.



North America is the world's third largest **continent**. It is a place made up of three very large **nations**, The United States, Canada, and Mexico, and several smaller countries found in the Caribbean and Central America. It has many unique physical characteristics.

The western part of North America is characterized by the Rocky **Mountains**. They are young mountains, and are tall, sharp, and snow-capped. The eastern part of the continent has the Appalachian mountain range. These mountains are old, rounded, and tree-covered. Between them, flat and wide are the Great **Plains** and prairies.

There are many great **rivers** in North America. The Mississippi and the Missouri flow through the Great Plains into the Gulf of Mexico. The Mackenzie flows into the Arctic Ocean. The St. Lawrence flows from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. They were all once important **routes** for exploration, but now serve as important passages for travel and shipping.

What are some of North America's major physical characteristics?



While most people in North America live in towns and **cities**, people can be found living in almost every **region**. Many people live along the eastern and western **coasts** and along the great rivers. Large North American cities, such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Orleans, Chicago, Toronto, and Montreal, are located beside rivers, lakes, or oceans because they need water for **transportation**.



North America - Place

1. Circle **T** if the statement is true or **F** if it is false.

T = True
F = False

- T F a) North America is the largest continent in the world.
- T F b) A place may be described by its physical and human characteristics.
- T F c) The great rivers of North America, such as the Mississippi and the St. Lawrence, have been important to people, both in the past and in the present, as routes for exploration, travel, and transportation.
- T F d) Many large North American cities were established in their locations because they were close to large bodies of water necessary for transportation.
- T F e) There are four Great Lakes.

2. Put a check mark (✓) next to the answer that is most correct.

- People can be found living throughout North America, but especially near which geographic feature?
 - A mountain ranges
 - B icy cold climates
 - C The Great Plains
 - D large bodies of water, such as oceans, lakes, and rivers
- The Rocky Mountains are relatively young mountains, and are tall, sharp, and snow-capped. The Appalachian Mountains are much older, and have been worn down by the passage of time. What are the features of the Appalachian Mountains?
 - A wide and flat
 - B still tall, yet rounded and tree-covered
 - C covered by jungle
 - D long, with banks on both sides
- Which area of North America has the largest collection of fresh water lakes in the world?
 - A The Great Plains
 - B the arctic
 - C The Great Lakes
 - D hot and humid jungles



North America - Place

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

- Why did many of North America's largest cities develop on large bodies of water?

- Which major bodies of water surround North America?

Research

5. When we learn about place, we are trying to decide which characteristics show how one place is unique from others. One thing that makes a place unique is the wildlife we find in that place. Conduct some research to find out which animals are unique to North America. Try to find ten special animals. Collect your findings in a chart like the one below.

Animal Species Name	Where it lives in North America (i.e., mountains, swamp, forest, desert, etc.)

6. Another unique feature of a place is the language, or languages, spoken there. Research the languages spoken in five North American countries. Record your findings in a chart like the one below.

Country Name	Languages Spoken (i.e., official language(s), and others spoken)
United States	
Canada	

7. Learn more about the Mississippi River by conducting some simple research. Where does the Mississippi River begin? How long is it? Which states does it pass through? Into which large body of water does it flow? Which famous city is located at the Mississippi delta, near the mouth of the river? Record your findings on a separate piece of paper.



Regions Change Over Time

Ancient Civilization

Modern Name

Then

Now

Name

Location

Movement

Buildings

Language



Wordsearch

Find all of the words in the Word Search. Words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. A few may even be backwards! Look carefully!

South America	movement	grassland	latitude
mountains	ideas	aboriginal	urban
Equator	continent	extinct	wildlife
region	interaction	transportation	features
rural	jungle	geographer	environment
languages	links	desert	products
endangered	longitude	rainforest	savannah

u	r	b	a	n	n	o	i	t	c	a	r	e	t	n	i	q	e
s	d	m	o	u	n	t	a	i	n	s	j	g	h	j	q	n	
x	c	v	d	e	r	e	g	n	a	d	n	e	r	t	u	j	v
s	o	u	t	h	a	m	e	r	c	a	s	a	t	h	i		
q	w	e	r	t	y	u	i	o	p	y	b	b	t	a	r	f	r
t	r	a	n	s	p	o	r	t	a	t	i	o	n	j	a	j	o
s	f	g	h	j	k	f	d	e	s	e	r	t	f	k	i	d	n
f	f	v	m	o	v	e	m	e	n	t	d	a	f	i	n	g	m
s	a	v	a	n	n	a	h	k	l	n	m	s	o	f	j	e	
f	d	s	a	f	h	t	f	u	u	g	h	v	l	o	a	n	
y	r	t	y	u	i	u	f	t	d	h	h	c	c	k	r	s	t
d	x	a	s	c	y	r	a	t	i	t	u	d	e	e	d	a	
q	d	v	n	h	j	e	e	e	e	e	e	l	x	s	f	b	
j	h	g	v	s	d	s	u	b	c	a	d	d	a	t	t	g	o
d	r	t	k	h	l	o	p	h	f	t	n	i	a	h	r		
n	b	n	b	h	t	e	s	e	d	f	n	g	n	s	e	i	
a	i	d	e	a	s	g	t	m	n	b	g	e	u	c	t	f	g
l	o	n	g	t	u	d	e	f	g	n	n	a	t	y	i	i	
s	d	f	f	y	u	o	i	e	a	o	i	g	v	g	l	n	
s	m	g	p	r	o	d	u	c	t	s	i	t	e	u	d	a	
a	j	u	n	g	l	e	j	u	n	h	g	n	s	r	o	l	l
r	u	r	a	l	t	y	p	i	n	g	e	o	r	t	p	i	d
g	e	o	g	r	a	p	h	e	r	d	r	c	d	f	l	w	d



Comprehension Quiz

Part A

Circle **T** if the statement is true or **F** if it is false.

T = True
F = False

30

8

- T F a) Most of South America is north of the equator.
- T F b) The Pacific Ocean is to the west of South America.
- T F c) South America is linked to North America at Panama.
- T F d) The trees of the Amazon Rainforest clean much of the Earth's air.
- T F e) Peru does not have earthquakes.
- T F f) Lima is in Argentina.
- T F g) Latitude and longitude are used to find a place's absolute location.
- T F h) The word **urban** describes an area in a city or town.

Part B

Label the map by doing the following:

1. Show the following features on the map by writing the letter on the map in the correct location.

- a) South America
- b) North America
- c) Atlantic Ocean
- d) Pacific Ocean
- e) Caribbean Sea



6

2. Color the equator red.

SUBTOTAL: /14

South America Climate Map





Human & Environmental Interactions

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

3. How must people in an earthquake zone change their way of life?

4. Why is it important for people to find a solution to cutting down too many trees?

Research, Extensions and Applications

5. South America's many regions contain hundreds of different animals, birds, and fish. Using the **Wildlife Organizer** on the next page, find kinds of wildlife unique to each of these areas: the Andes Mountains, the Amazon Rainforest, and the Pampas. Pay special attention to those animals that are **endangered**.

6. What kinds of programs does your school, town, or city have to help protect the environment? Circle one of these areas to research:

my school my neighborhood my town my city

Complete a chart like the one below to help you collect your information. Share your chart with the class.

My _____'s Programs	How they help protect the environment

7. What things can you do at home to help protect the environment? List them.

3.

Possible answer:
Change the way they build their homes

4.

Possible answer:
Destroys trees needed for cleaning the air and animal habitats

5.

Answers will vary in detail depending on source used.

Possible possibilities:
Andes – llama, alpaca, etc.

Amazon rainforest – monkeys, leopard, etc.

Pampas – farm animals, cattle, etc.

6.

Answers will vary

7.

Answers will vary

44

1.

Answers will vary

2.

A rural

B communication

C urban

D transportation

46

1.

Possible answers:

a) how people, ideas, and products move from place to place.

b) vehicles and the routes on which they travel.

c) the things we buy and use in our homes.

d) a device for communicating ideas, music, etc.

2.

Possible answers:
radio, Internet, TV, etc.

a) F

b) F

c) T

d) T

e) T

f) F

g) T

48



EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY