

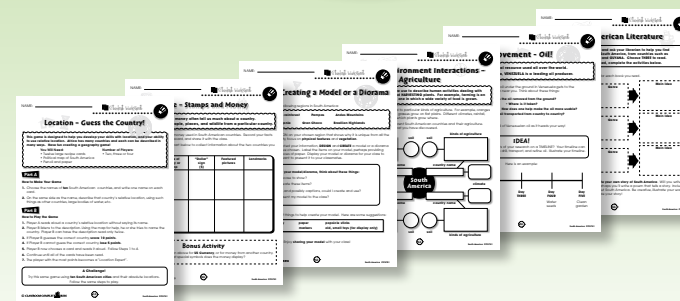
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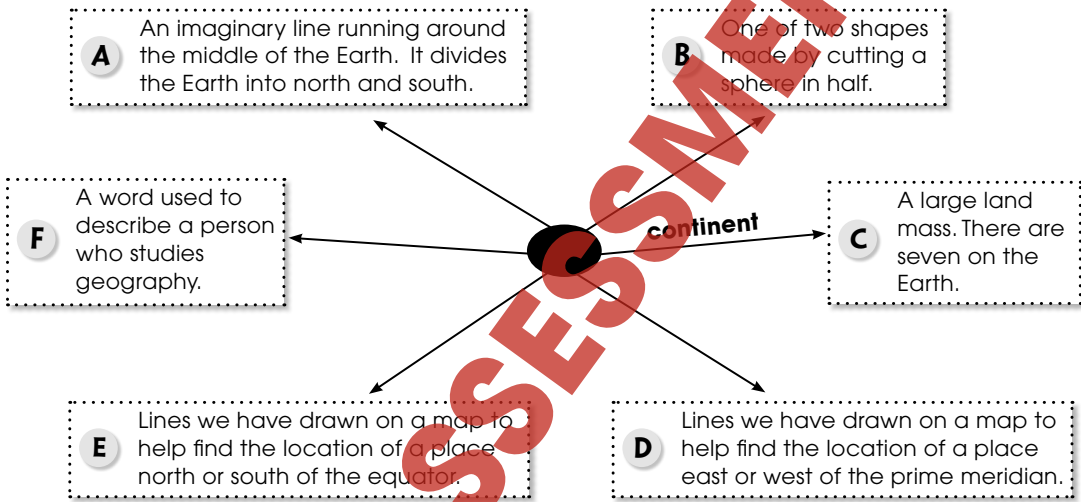


# South America - Location

1. Read these six geography words to yourself.

**continent hemisphere geographer equator latitude longitude**

Below is a web with the definitions of each of these words. Write the word on the arm of the web that matches its definition. One has been done for you.



2. On the map, color South America in **green**. Show the equator as a **red line**.



# South America - Location

**H**ow can we describe the **location** of South America? We can describe its location in two ways. We can describe exactly where it is, or we can describe where it is by using the things we find around it. If we describe exactly where South America is, we are giving its **absolute location**. When we describe the features around South America and the features that connect it to other places, we are describing its **relative location**.



Because South America is one of the world's largest continents, it is very difficult to describe its exact location. Why? We describe absolute location by looking at where lines of **latitude** and **longitude** cross, but because South America is so large, we cannot do this. A **geographer** could say that South America is found approximately between 12°N latitude and 55°S latitude, but those two lines of latitude are more than 5,000 miles apart! From east to west, South America is also about 3,000 miles wide! It is much easier to describe South America's location by looking at those features and places around it.

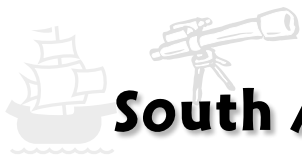
**STOP** How can we best describe South America's location?

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To begin with, South America is entirely in the western hemisphere. Most of South America is also south of the equator. That means that most of it is in the southern hemisphere. Like other continents, it has shorelines on several large bodies of water. The Atlantic Ocean lies to the east, and the Pacific Ocean to the west, and the Caribbean Sea to the north. These bodies of water provide **links** between South America and other parts of the globe. On its northern borders, South America is linked by land to North America at Panama. To the south, across the Drake Passage, South America is only about 600 miles away from Antarctica! By describing these features, we have given South America's relative location.



# South America - Location

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

- a) South America is only 600 miles north of which icy continent?
- A North America
- B Asia
- C Antarctica
- D the Arctic
- b) From east to west, South America is only about \_\_\_\_\_ miles wide.
- A 3,000
- B 5,000
- C 600
- D 4,000
- c) Most of South America is south of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A North America
- B Antarctica
- C the equator
- D the Pacific Ocean

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

T = True  
F = False

- T F a) The Atlantic Ocean lies to the east of South America.
- T F b) The Pacific Ocean lies to the east of South America.
- T F c) South America is linked to North America at the equator.
- T F d) South America is only about 3,000 miles away from Antarctica.
- T F e) South America is about 3,000 miles wide.
- T F f) Absolute location tells exactly where a place is.



# South America - Location

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

3. Why is it difficult to describe a continent's exact location?
- 
4. Which major bodies of water surround South America?
- 

## Research and Applications

5. Find **Chile** on a map of South America. Using the features around it, describe its relative location.

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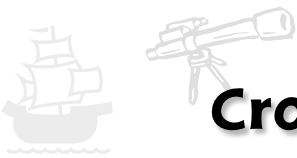
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6. Many atlases list the exact locations of the world's major cities using latitude and longitude. Using an atlas, find the exact location of **ten** South American cities of your choice. Also, list the country in which we find each city and the hemisphere(s) in which it is found. Make a chart like this to help you organize the information you find. One has been done for you.

City Name	Hemisphere (give two)	Exact Location	Country
Montevideo	southern and western	34°S latitude 56°W longitude	Uruguay

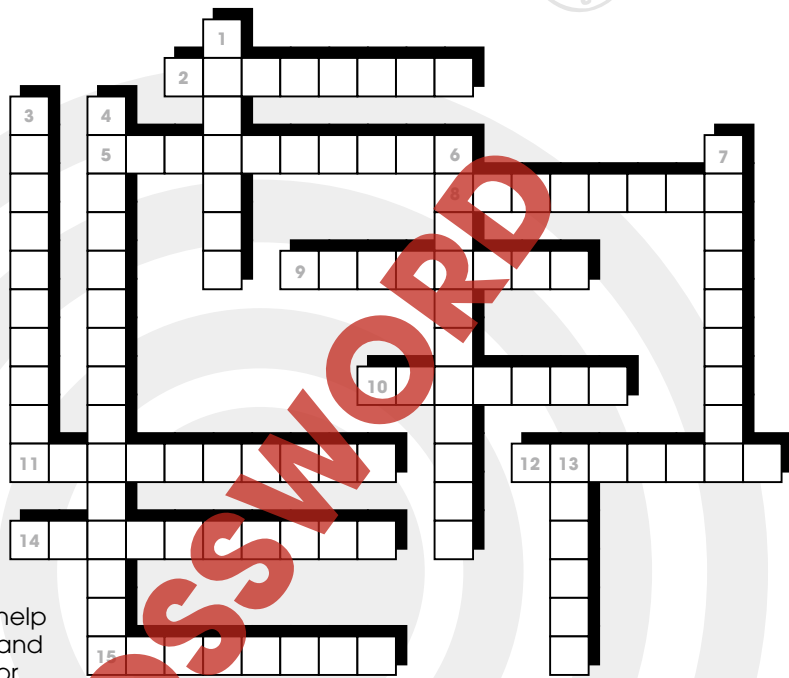
7. Think about the location of **your home**. What is its number, its street, its city, and its state? What things do you find around it?

Describe your home in two ways. Give its **exact location**. Give its **relative location**. How are the two descriptions the same? How are they different? Share your descriptions with a friend.



# Crossword Puzzle!

- equator
- medicines
- Rainforest
- latitude
- Panama
- Pacific
- mountain
- absolute
- Antarctica
- southern
- characteristics
- earthquakes
- Spanish
- hemisphere
- geographer



**Across**

- 2 Lines on a map to help find a place north and south of the equator
- 5 One of the shapes made by cutting a sphere in half
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ location describes exactly where a place is.
- 9 The Andes is a long \_\_\_\_\_ range in South America.
- 10 Imaginary line running along the middle of the Earth
- 11 The Amazon \_\_\_\_\_ is a region with humid jungles.
- 12 A common language spoken in South America
- 14 South America is north of this icy continent.
- 15 South America is entirely in the \_\_\_\_\_ hemisphere.

**Down**

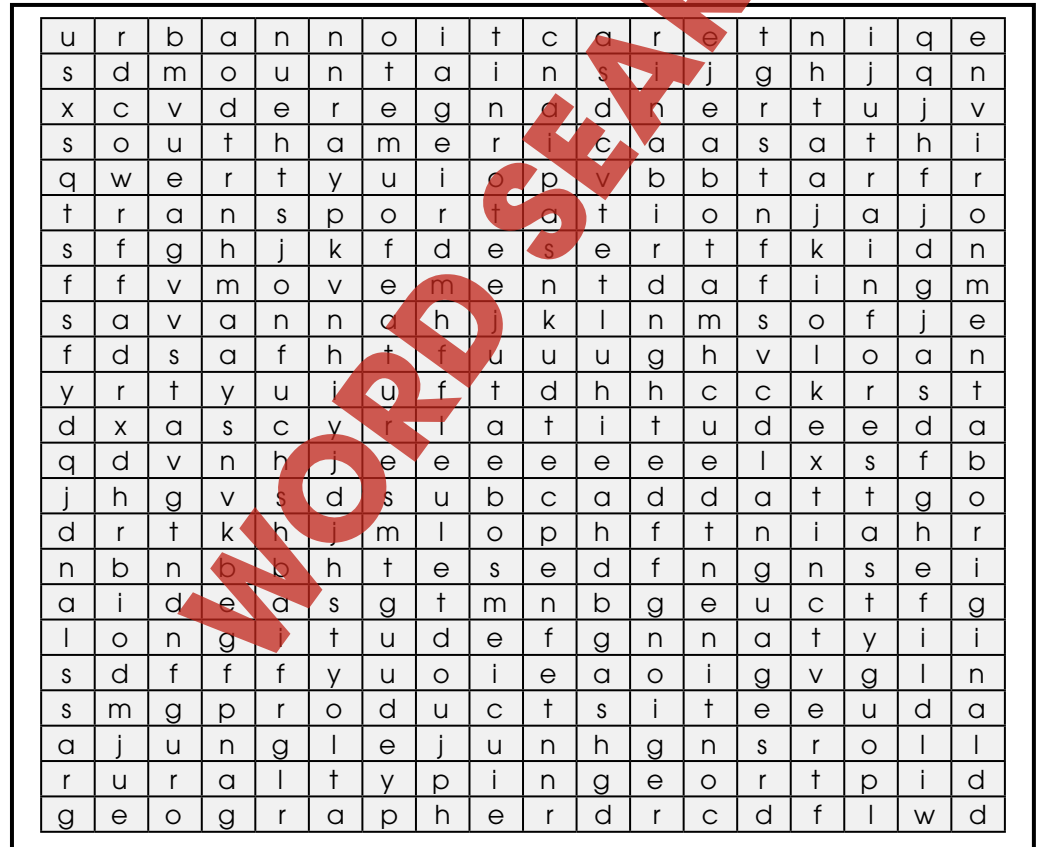
- 1 The \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean lies to the west of South America.
- 3 A person who studies geography
- 4 A place can be described by physical and human \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ in Peru have changed how and where people build their homes.
- 7 Scientists look for new \_\_\_\_\_ in the Amazon Rainforest.
- 13 South America is linked to North America at \_\_\_\_\_.



# Word Search

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    |



# Comprehension Quiz

**Part A**

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

**T** = True  
**F** = False

- 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.

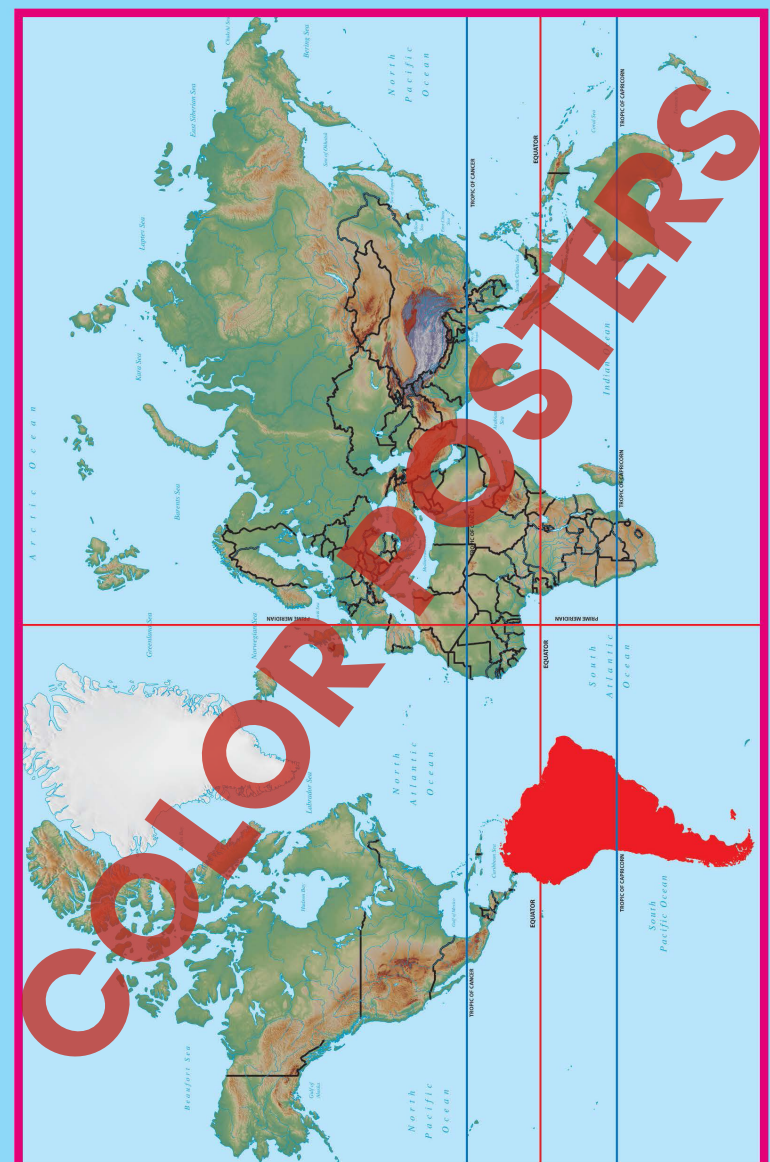
- a) South America
- b) North America
- c) Atlantic Ocean
- d) Pacific Ocean
- e) Caribbean Sea



- 2. Color the equator red.

SUBTOTAL: /14

# South America World Location Map





# South America - Location

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

3. Why is it difficult to describe a continent's exact location?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Which major bodies of water surround South America?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Research and Applications

5. Find **Chile** on a map of South America. Using the features around it, describe its relative location.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Many atlases list the exact locations of the world's major cities using latitude and longitude. Using an atlas, find the exact location of **ten** South American cities of your choice. Also, list the country in which we find each city and the hemisphere(s) in which it is found. Make a chart like this to help you organize the information you find. One has been done for you.

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Describe your home in two ways. Give its **exact location**. Give its **relative location**. How are the two descriptions the same? How are they different? Share your descriptions with a friend.

**3.**  
It is too vast to use latitude and longitude to pinpoint an exact location where these lines cross

**4.**  
Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Caribbean Sea

**5.**  
Possible answers:  
West of Argentina and Bolivia; east of the Pacific Ocean, south of Peru; west of Brazil; east of South America

**6.**  
Answers will vary

**7.**  
Answers will vary

- Across:**
- 2. latitude
  - 5. hemisphere
  - 8. absolute
  - 9. mountain
  - 10. equator
  - 11. Rainforest
  - 12. Spanish
  - 14. Antarctica
  - 15. southern

- Down:**
- 1. Pacific
  - 3. geographer
  - 4. characteristics
  - 6. earthquakes
  - 7. medicines
  - 13. Panama

# EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

