

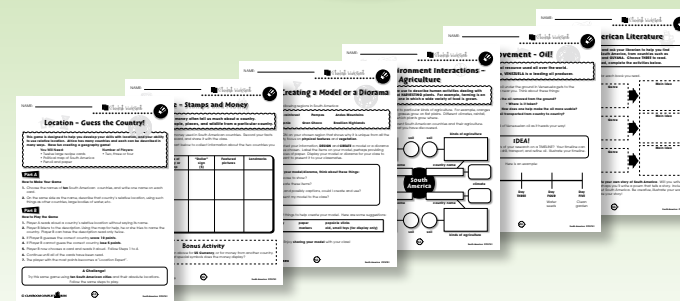
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Human & Environmental Interactions

1. Why are each of the things listed below important to us? How can we help preserve them? List your ideas in the box below each. Share your list with a partner, and then with the class. As you hear other ideas, add them to your list. You may have to remove ideas that do not belong.

a) clean water

b) clean air

c) endangered animals

d) trees

2. What do these words mean? Write each definition. Use a dictionary to help you.

- a) environment _____
- b) extinct _____
- c) rainforest _____
- d) earthquake _____



Human & Environmental Interactions

Every day, the things that people do affect their **environment**. Sometimes people cut down trees for paper or wood for houses, only to destroy the habitats of animals. Sometimes we hunt animals to extinction. Sometimes, the pollution we create affects ourselves and the environment around us. When an environment is harsh or changing, people must often adapt to their environment to survive. Learning about these issues is known as the study of human and environmental **interactions**.



(Amazon River & Rainforest)

Here is an example of a human and environmental interaction that is having a negative affect. In Brazil, the Amazon Rainforest, one of the world's natural wonders, covers most of the northern part of that country. Located along the Amazon River, just south of the equator, this jungle is rich with animal, fish, and insect wildlife. It is also an area in which many kinds of medicines have been discovered by scientists. Much of the air on earth is cleaned by the trees that grow there. However, in spite of these wonderful features, people are cutting down the trees at a very fast pace. The trees are used by people for paper and wood, but when they are cut down many animals lose their natural habitats, and we have fewer trees to clean our air. It is a dangerous situation, and many people are working to find a solution to this problem.

Why is it important to prevent too much of the Amazon Rainforest from being cut down?

Sometimes nature affects the choices we make when deciding where to live and how we build our homes. In Peru, several recent earthquakes have made people think about how they construct their homes and buildings. The worst earthquake happened in 1970, when thousands of people were killed, and their homes were destroyed. Following this disaster, people were more careful about where they built their homes. In recent years, fewer people have died in earthquakes in Peru, because people have learned how to adapt to the danger.



Human & Environmental Interactions

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

T = True
F = False

- T F a) Peru's worst earthquake happened in 1970.
- T F b) The Amazon Rainforest covers most of northern Brazil.
- T F c) The trees of the Amazon Rainforest clean much of the Earth's air.
- T F d) People do not cut down Amazon Rainforest trees.
- T F e) Because of earthquakes, people in Peru have changed how they build their homes.

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

- a) The Amazon River is just south of _____.
 - A a large city
 - B the Pampas grasslands
 - C the equator
 - D an earthquake in Peru.
- b) Amazon trees that are cut down are used for many purposes, such as _____.
 - A air and water
 - B animals and fish
 - C pollution and habitats
 - D wood and paper
- c) Humans can harm the environment when they _____.
 - A destroy habitats
 - B hunt animals to extinction
 - C cause pollution
 - D all of the above



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 for 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.

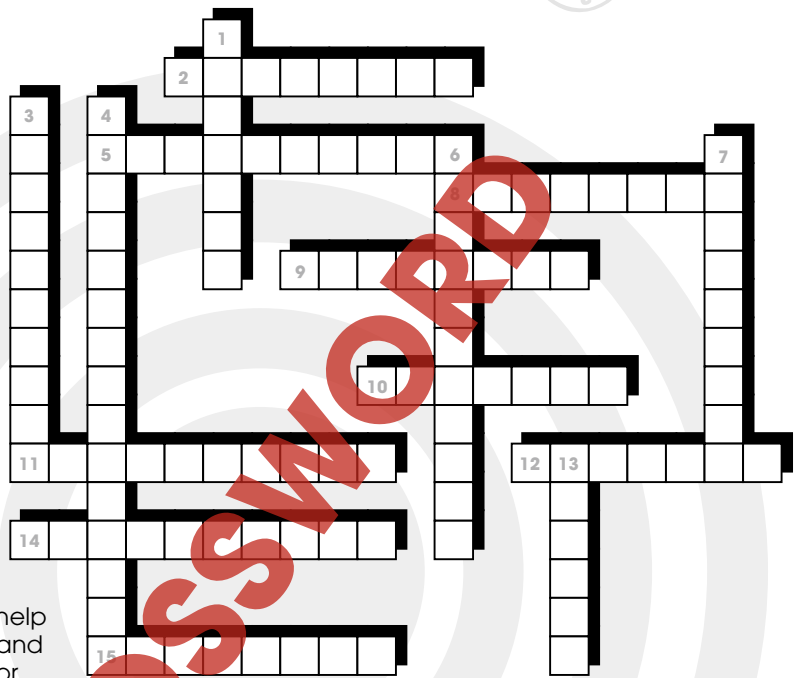
My _____'s Programs	How they help protect the environment

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



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.

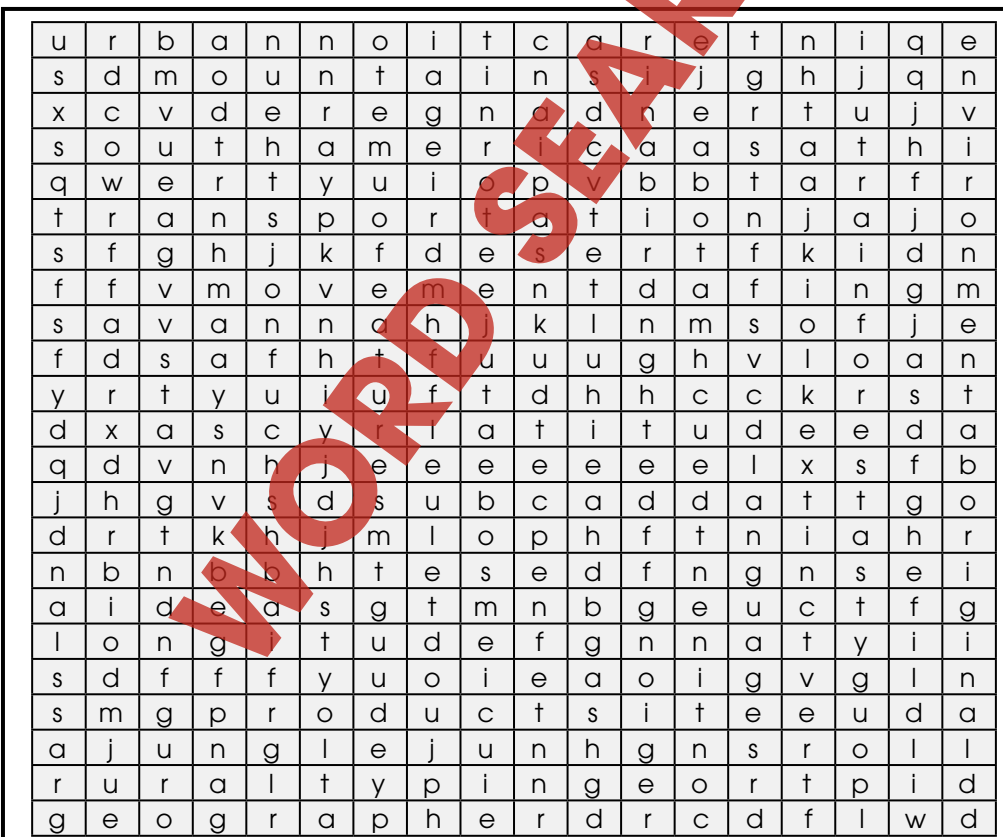
Down

- 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
- mountains
- Equator
- region
- rural
- languages
- endangered
- movement
- ideas
- continent
- interaction
- jungle
- links
- longitude
- grassland
- aboriginal
- extinct
- transportation
- geographer
- desert
- rainforest
- latitude
- urban
- wildlife
- features
- environment
- products
- 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 Physical 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.
The possibilities:
Andes - llama, alpaca, etc.

Amazon rainforest - monkeys, leopard, etc.
Pampas - farm animals, cattle, etc.

6.

Answers will vary

7.

Answers will vary

10

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

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EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY