

YEAR 6 – THE AMAZING AMERICAS – AUTUMN 1



Location



Physical features



Human features



QUESTION: WHAT MAKES THE AMERICAS SO AMAZING?

WEEKS OF TEACHING	LINE OF ENQUIRY	THRESHOLD CONCEPT	SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE	DISCIPLINARY KNOWLEDGE	CURRICULUM ENDPOINT
1	What Continents, countries and cities make up the Americas?	- Communicate geographically - Investigate places	The Americas are made up of two continents: North & South, often including Central America There are many countries in The Americas: Canada, the USA in the North ; Brazil & Peru in the South There are many important cities in The Americas: Washington DC [USA], Mexico City [Mexico] and Brasilia [Brazil]	- Name and locate some of the countries and cities of the world - Name and locate the countries of North and South America and identify their main physical and human characteristics. - Describe geographical diversity across the world.	- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities - understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in
2	How do Geographical lines help describe and locate places on earth?	Investigate places	The Equator is an imaginary line of latitude that runs around the middle of the Earth; it crosses South America through countries like Ecuador, Colombia, and Brazil. The Tropic of Cancer (north) and the Tropic of Capricorn (south) are special lines of latitude that mark the tropical zone	Identify and describe the geographical significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle,	

			• Lines of longitude run north–south • Lines of latitude run east–west and measure how far north or south a place is from the Equator • Latitude tells us “how hot or cold” a place might be. • Longitude tells us “what time” it is there.		a European country, and a region within North or South America
3	What are time zones and how do they change through the Americas?	• Investigate places	• Time zones are regions of the Earth that share the same standard time, based on the lines of longitude • The Americas stretch across many time zones • North America has multiple time zones • Time zones follow the lines of longitude, though not perfectly, because they are adjusted for countries and borders • To give a location, we read latitude first, then longitude	• Identify and describe the geographical significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, and time zones (including day and night).	3. Human and physical geography: describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle 4. human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water
4	How does a compass help us locate different parts of the Americas?	• Investigate places	• Cardinal points: North (N), South (S), East (E), West (W) • Intercardinal points: Northeast (NE), Southeast (SE), Southwest (SW), Northwest (NW)	• Use the eight points of a compass	
5	What are the climates of the Americas?	• Investigate places • Investigate patterns	• Weather: Definition: The conditions of the atmosphere in a place at a particular time. Includes: Temperature, rainfall, wind, cloud cover, storms, etc. • Climate: Definition: The average weather in a place over a long period of time (usually 30 years or more). Includes: Typical temperatures, rainfall patterns, and seasons. •	• Describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and the water cycle.	5. use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied 6. use the eight points of a compass,
6	What biomes are in the Americas?	• Investigate places • Investigate patterns	• Tropical climates are found near the Equator • Desert and arid climates exist in parts	• Describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation	

			of North and South America, • Temperate climates occur in areas further from the Equator, such as much of the USA	belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and the water cycle. • Create maps of locations identifying patterns (such as: land use, climate zones, population densities, height of land).	
Assessment opportunity: children create a diamond 9 as to what makes the Americas so amazing.					