



# Year 6 Geography Spring 1



## South America

Key Vocabulary	Definition
<b>Altitude</b>	The height of an object or point in relation to sea level or ground level.
<b>Amazon Rainforest</b>	Also known as 'Amazonia'. A tropical rainforest in South America.
<b>Amazon river</b>	A river in South America that runs through Brazil and Peru.
<b>Andes mountains</b>	The longest continental mountain range in the world, located along the western edge of South America.
<b>Arable farming</b>	Farming of crops. Arable land is ploughed to grow crops such as wheat, potatoes, carrots, sugar beet.
<b>Economy</b>	The wealth and resources of a country or region, especially in terms of the production and consumption of goods and services.
<b>Empire</b>	A word used to describe a group of territories ruled by one single ruler or state.
<b>Export</b>	To send goods or services to another country for sale.
<b>Import</b>	To bring goods or services into a country from abroad for sale.
<b>Incan</b>	A member of the South American people living in the Andes from around 1200 to around 1530
<b>Machu Picchu</b>	The remains of an Incan settlement.
<b>Pastoral farming</b>	Farming of livestock such as dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep.
<b>Quechua</b>	A language spoken by Incan people.
<b>Subduction</b>	The process of one tectonic plate's edge descending below the edge of another.
<b>Tectonic plates</b>	The earth's crust is broken into these pieces. The plates move very slowly, helping to form mountains, volcanoes, and valleys.
<b>Terrain</b>	A piece of land. The physical features within that piece of land.



**South America** is a continent, the majority of which is located in the Southern Hemisphere. The continent of South America contains twelve countries. These are: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela. South America is the fourth largest continent in the world. **The Andes** Mountain range runs along the western edge of South America.

The **Incan Empire** ran from the 1200's to the 1500's. They built the largest empire of the native South American people. The Incas built roads and bridges, developed a postal service, performed brain surgeries, created their own calendar, and spoke their own language, **Quechua**. Some buildings and objects from the Incan Empire remain today, such as **Machu Picchu**.

