

KNOWLEDGE NAVIGATOR

Summary

The world is made up of seven continents and five oceans. The biggest continent is Asia, the continent we live on is called Europe and the biggest ocean is the Pacific. Oceans are made up of salt water and cover about three quarters of the Earth's surface. . Oceans that are enclosed are called seas. The closest seas to the United Kingdom are the North Sea, Irish Sea and the English Channel.



Physical Features

- The Earth is the planet on which we live.
- It is a sphere.
- It has a core, mantle and crust.
- The crust is the rock that covers the entire surface of the Earth.
- Below the crust is the mantle which is made of hot liquid rock called magma.
- Some of the crust is covered by the oceans of the world
- The part of the crust that is not covered by the oceans is called land.
- Some of the land has formed into high mountains and some into low valleys.
- Land is divided into continent, which are very large areas of land.



Human Features

Continents usually have many countries within them, apart from Australia which is a continent and a country. Antarctica has no countries and nobody living there as it is a landmass covered in ice.



Vocabulary

Continent: A large area of land

Ocean: A large area of salt water

Enclosed: surrounded by land

Seas: Smaller, enclosed or partly enclosed areas of salt water



Do you think out continents always been split apart like you see in the picture above?

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Summary

Scotland is one of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom (UK). Its population is around 5.5 million and its capital city is Edinburgh. The national flag is the Saltire or St Andrew's cross named after the patron saint St Andrew. The national emblem is the thistle. It lies north of England and its most northerly point is Muckle Flugga lighthouse which is off the island of Unst in the Shetland archipelago. Shetland marks the boundary between the Atlantic Ocean to the west and the North Sea to the east.



Physical features

Physical Features

Scotland has lowlands, uplands, highlands and islands. The highest peak is Ben Nevis and there are 283 mountains over 3000 feet (munro). The Scottish word for lake is loch and Scotland has a number of large lochs, the most well-known being Loch Ness, famous for the legend of the Loch Ness Monster, Nessie. The highlands and islands are very remote and have very few people living there.



Human Features

Scotland only has seven cities, the largest of which is Glasgow followed by Edinburgh. There are many smaller towns and villages with a range of roads and transport networks linking them together. The cities and towns are urban where as most of the land in the country is rural.



Diversity

Diversity

One of the most striking aspects of diversity in Scotland is the huge difference in the nature of the landscape in the lowlands and the highlands and islands.



Vocabulary

Archipelago: A group of islands

Peak: The pointed top of a mountain

Munros: Mountains over 3000 feet (914 metres)

Legend: a story from long ago which may or may not be true.

Urban: Relating to the cities and towns.

Rural: relating to the countryside



What are the similarities and differences between England and Scotland?

Knowledge Navigator



- ⇒ Europe is a continent on the western part of a larger landmass called Eurasia.
- ⇒ It is not part of Asia even though it is joined to it.—there is a boundary including the Ural Mountains in Russia and the Bosphorus River in Turkey.
- ⇒ There are over 50 countries in Europe.
- ⇒ 23 recognised languages are spoken in Europe.

Map of Europe:



Diversity

Languages spoken in Europe:



Location

Europe is located completely in the northern hemisphere and mainly in the eastern hemisphere. Europe borders the Arctic Ocean in the north, the Atlantic Ocean in the west and the Mediterranean Sea in the south.



Vocabulary

landmass—a large continuous area of land, as oppose to seas or islands.

continent—a large area of land, there are 7 in the world.



Thinking Point

How could we find out about cultural differences between eastern and western Europe?

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Summary

A river is a natural watercourse flowing towards an ocean, sea, lake or another river. In some cases, a river flows into the ground and becomes dry at the end of its course without reaching another body of water. A river is part of a physical process called the water cycle. Rivers and streams often join together before they reach the mouth of the river. The smaller rivers and streams are called tributaries. Stream, creek, brook, rivulet, rill, beck and burn are all names for small rivers. The five longest rivers in the world are: Nile, Amazon, Yangtze, Mississippi and Yenisei.



Physical features

Physical Features

A river begins at a source and follows a path called a course, and ends at a mouth. The water in a river runs through a channel, which is a river bed between two banks. In larger rivers there is often also a floodplain shaped by floodwaters escaping the channel. River flow down mountains and hills through valleys.

The term 'upstream' refers to the part of the river nearest its source. Likewise, the term 'downstream' describes the part of the river near its mouth.

Rivers carve a V-shaped channel (valley). In the middle reaches, where a river flows over flatter land, meanders may form. Sometimes the river will cut off a loop, shortening the channel and forming an ox-bow lake. Rivers sometimes develop deltas at their mouths. A river with its mouth in saline tidal waters will form an estuary.

Most but not all rivers flow on the surface. Subterranean rivers flow underground in caves or caverns.



Human Features

Rivers are difficult and dangerous to cross. Cities and towns often develop where there are bridges to cross a river.



Vocabulary

Watercourse: a channel of flowing water

Tributaries: smaller streams that join a river

Source: the start of a river

Mouth: the end of a river

Channel: the course of a river

River bed: the bottom of a river

Reaches: parts of a river

Meanders: bends in a river

Deltas: where a river splits and spreads out into several branches before entering the sea

Estuary: The part of a river that meets the sea



Thinking point

How does a river create meanders and ox-bow lakes?

Why are major cities and towns always located near rivers?

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Summary

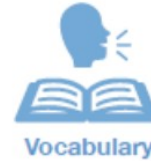
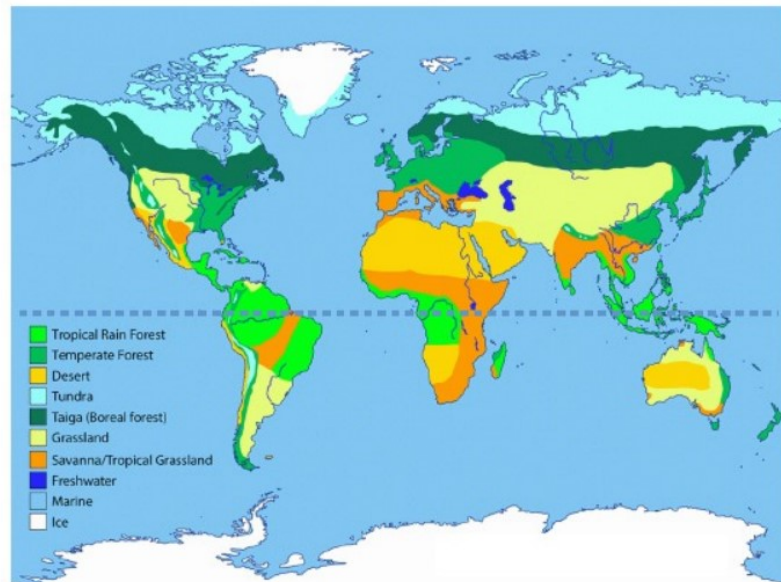
Biomes are a way to categorise the Earth's surface. These categories are based on climate patterns, soil types and the animals and plants that inhabit an area. There are terrestrial biomes and aquatic biomes. Every part of the Earth's surface is a part of one or more of the ten biomes on Earth.

Climate is the average weather expected in a place over a period of time. Weather is the day-to-day conditions in a place. Earth has seven zones of expected climate and these are directly linked to biomes.



Location

Location of Earth's Biomes



Vocabulary

Categorise: To put into groups.

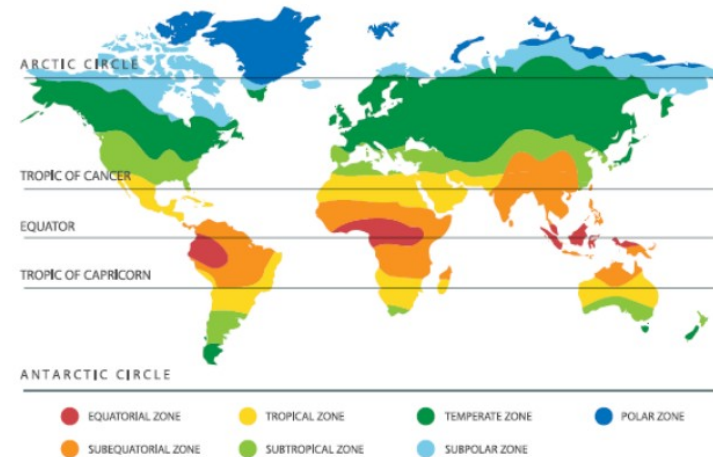
Inhabit: To live in.

Terrestrial: On land.

Aquatic: in water.

Climate: The average expected weather in a place.

Location of Earth's Climate Zones



Thinking point

Why are biomes and climate zones very closely linked with each other?

Can you name some similarities and differences between biomes and/or climate zones?

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Summary

South America is a continent made up of 12 countries. Its largest country is Brazil, which covers more than half of the continent's landmass. Brazil is only slightly smaller than the USA. The smallest country is Suriname, one of the ten most sparsely populated countries in the world. The biggest island is Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire), at the southern tip of Argentina and Chile. Bolivia and Paraguay are both landlocked countries. Lake Titicaca (shared by Bolivia and Peru) is the continent's biggest lake.



Location



Vocabulary

Landmass: A large continuous area of land.
Sparsely: with only a small number of people.

Landlocked: With no access to the sea.

Indigenous: native to a country.

Colony: a country occupied by another country.



Diversity

While South America's rainforests are some of the wettest places on Earth, the Atacama desert in Chile is considered the driest place on Earth. The Incas were the largest group of indigenous people in South America when the Europeans arrived. The Incan Empire lasted from 1438 until 1533. Indigenous cultures are still present in South America but their numbers are getting smaller. In Suriname, previously a Dutch colony, the official language is Dutch. Many people speak English as a second language.



Thinking point

How many different biomes and climate zones are there in South America? Can you name them?