

Alverton School Geography Knowledge Organiser Years 5 and 6 - North America

What we already know:

The world consists of 5 oceans and 7 continents. North America is one of these continents. It has many varied landscapes and features. It is connected to South America which is another continent. North America contains 23 countries including the Caribbean and Central America. North America is surrounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean, on the east by the North Atlantic Ocean, on the south by the Caribbean Sea, and on the west by the North Pacific Ocean.

Core Knowledge

The world can be divided into biomes depending on the vegetation, animal life and climate. North America contains most of the world's biome types.

The United States of America is the country in that continent with the highest population. It is divided into 52 states which have a huge variety of climates and landscapes.

North America has a vast supply of natural resources which have been exploited for many years. Coal is the most common resource although gold and silver mines are found on the western side of the country.

With sun, sand, surf, and mountains, the West Coast state of California is known for its many attractions that lure travelers year-round. It is also famous for the goldrush of 1849 when many people flocked to the mountains to search for gold.

Earthquakes occur when two adjacent tectonic plates move. A huge earthquake hit San Francisco in the last century and devastated the city.

The Earth is divided into time zones and because of its size, North America is split into 6 time zones.

Key Vocabulary

Continent	A large landmass containing several countries.
Country	A nation occupying a territory.
Biome	An environment defined by the species living there.
Canyon	A deep gorge with a river flowing through it.
Mountain Range	A series of connected mountains
Monsoon	A seasonal wind bringing lots of rain.
Hemisphere	A half of the Earth.
Physical feature	Something formed by nature.
Human Feature	Something formed by humans.
Tropics	The area between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

