

Tender Heart High School
Sector: 33B, Chandigarh

Class: 6th

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Subject: Geography

Teacher: Pooja Mohwal

Chapter: 11

South America: People and Natural Resources

Firstly Brief Introduction of the chapter for the students:
Good Morning / Afternoon students;
Today we will start the new one chapter, that is continue our add-on of the knowledge in going South America Continent. In this we gonna learn about People and Natural Resources of the continent. So lets start the chapter

People of South America:

- South America stands 5th in world population after Asia, Africa, Europe and North America. The Entire south America has a population of about 37 crore
- Density: unevenly distributed
- the population is largely concentrated in the coastal areas because the industries and infrastructure are highly developed in these areas.

* three main racial groups of south America

- American Indians: the pre-Colombian inhabitants
- Spanish and Portuguese: the migrant groups
- Mixed race

① American Indians:

Before the advent of the Europeans, the native population comprised of Incas, Arawaks and Yanomami Indians, who had reddish-brown skin and black hair. The Incas of Peru were highly civilised people. The primary means of livelihood of Guano and Mapuche tribes was fishing and hunting and hunting.

② Migrant Groups:

Spain and Portugal began to colonise South America from the 16th century onwards. People from many other countries have also migrated to the continent during the preceding hundred years. There is huge population of Indian origin in Guyana and Suriname. Japanese live near the city of Sao Paulo in Brazil and Germans in southern Chile.

③ Mixed Races: Many mixed races also emerged such as Mestizos with mixed blood of European and American Indians. They live in the cities. Mulatto are of mixed European and African blood and Zambos are of mixed American - Indian and African blood.

Natural Resources

South America has abundant natural resources. Most of the natural resources are still not used to their fullest, due to mountains, forest, lack of modern means of transport and shortage of technical and skilled labours.

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(a) Water Resources: South America has abundant water resources b/c its largest river: Amazon, is used for navigation. Lake Titicaca in Bolivia is the main place for fishing to meet the local needs.

- Rivers Orinoco and Parana are used for water transportation. streams that rush down the steep slopes of Andes are good for generating hydroelectricity and providing irrigation to farmlands.
- Brazil alone produces more than 50% of the total hydroelectricity generated in South America.

(b) Forests:

The Amazon Basin has the world's largest tropical forests, with a variety of trees that provides timber, rubbers and medicine. From Yerba mate (tree) beverages make

- Brazilian nuts are used in chocolate
- Garnauba wax derived from the palm trees is used in the manufacturing of insulating material, music records, candles.
- Gran Chaco region has red quebracho (hardwood trees) used in inks and dyes
- Chicle tree is used for making chewing gum.



Agriculture

only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the land area of South America is suitable for agriculture. Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador are the main agricultural countries.

- 1. there are only a few large farms where modern agricultural techniques, equipment and HYV of seed are used.

(A) Food Crops: the main food crops are wheat, maize and rice which are grown on small plots of land. wheat and maize are grown in Argentina, Brazil and central Chile.

→ the Pampas of Argentina are the largest producers and exporters of wheat in South America, then it is called -
'Granary of South America'.

→ Maize is the staple food of the people of South America
→ Rice mostly grown in the coastal areas.

(b) Cash Crops:

South America is popularly called the producer of 'desert crops'. the main cash crops cultivated are - coffee, cotton, sugarcane, cocoa and banana.

→ Coffee is the most important cash crop and is grown on large plantation called 'fazenda'. Brazil is the largest producer of coffee in the world.

→ Sugarcane is widely cultivated in the tropical plains. -
Brazil, Argentina, Suriname, Colombia, Peru and Guyana.

→ In coastal areas of Brazil, cocoa is grown on a large scale.

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