

Brazil



Where in the World?

Brazil is situated in the continent of South America. Brazil is located on the eastern coast of South America, sharing land borders with: Uruguay in the south; Argentina and Paraguay to the southwest; Bolivia and Peru to the west; Colombia to the northwest; and Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and the French overseas department of French Guiana to the north. In 2016, Brazil was named as the sixth largest economy in the world.

Cities and Sightseeing

São Paulo

This is the largest city in Brazil with over 11 million people living here. Those who live here are called Paulistanos.

Human Features

- São Paulo Cathedral is a Roman Catholic place of worship.
- Parque Hopi Hari is a theme park in the city.

Physical Feature

- Pico do Jaraguá is the highest mountain of the city.



Brasília

Human Features

- The Palácio da Alvorada is the official residence of the President of Brazil.
- Paranoá Lake is a man-made lake on the east side of the city.
- Cathedral of Brasília is a Roman Catholic cathedral designed by a Brazilian architect.

Physical Feature

- Itiquara Falls is 168 metres high.



Rio de Janeiro

People call Rio de Janeiro 'Rio' for short. It is the second largest city in Brazil.

Human Feature

- Tijuca Forest is a hand-planted rainforest.
- Christ the Redeemer statue is situated in Tijuca Forest and is a religious statue that stands on top of Corcovado Mountain.

Physical Features

- Sugarloaf Mountain is a peak located at the mouth of Guanabara Bay. It is nearly 400 metres high.
- Copacabana beach is 4km in length.
- Rio is very famous for its carnivals too.



Salvador

Human Features

- The historic centre with its pretty-coloured buildings and interesting architecture.
- The Estádio Fonte Nova was used for several 2014 FIFA World Cup games.



Physical Feature

- The Porto da Barra beach is a physical feature with two human features built on to it: a white fort at one end and a small church on the opposite hill side.

The Brazilian Flag



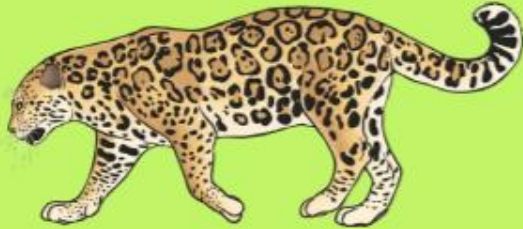
The Brazilian flag has a fascinating history behind its unique design and colours. The Brazilian flag begins with a dark green background with a large yellow diamond in the middle. In the centre of the diamond

is a blue globe with 27 five-pointed white stars. Each star represents one of each of the states in the Federal District, which are arranged in the same pattern as the stars in the Brazilian night sky. Across the globe is a white banner that reads, 'Ordem E Progresso', which translates in English to 'Order and Progress'.

Just like the American flag, each colour stands for something very important to the Brazilian culture. Yellow represents the gold reserves the country holds. Green symbolises the great Amazon Rainforest, the Atlantic jungle, and the Panama – Brazil's amazing tropical landscape.

Brazilian Rainforest

The Amazon is the largest tropical rainforest in the world. Covering over 5.5 million square kilometres, it is so big that the UK and Ireland would fit into it 17 times! Most of the Amazon rainforest is in Brazil. This area of immense natural beauty is sometimes referred to as 'the



lungs of the Earth'. This is because the rich vegetation takes carbon dioxide out of the air and releases oxygen back in. In fact, more than 20% of the world's oxygen is produced by the Amazon.

Running through the north of the rainforest is the Amazon River. Flowing a length of around 6,400km, it is the second longest river in the world.



The Different Layers of a Rainforest

There are four main parts of a rainforest:

Emergent Layer – It's very sunny here because it is at the very top. Only the tallest trees reach this level.

Who lives here? Birds, butterflies, small monkeys, bats, snakes and bugs.

Canopy Layer - Most trees in the forest grow to this height. There are plants that grow in the canopy layer but their roots don't reach the ground - these are called air plants.

Who lives here? Birds, monkeys, frogs, sloths, lizards, snakes and many insects.

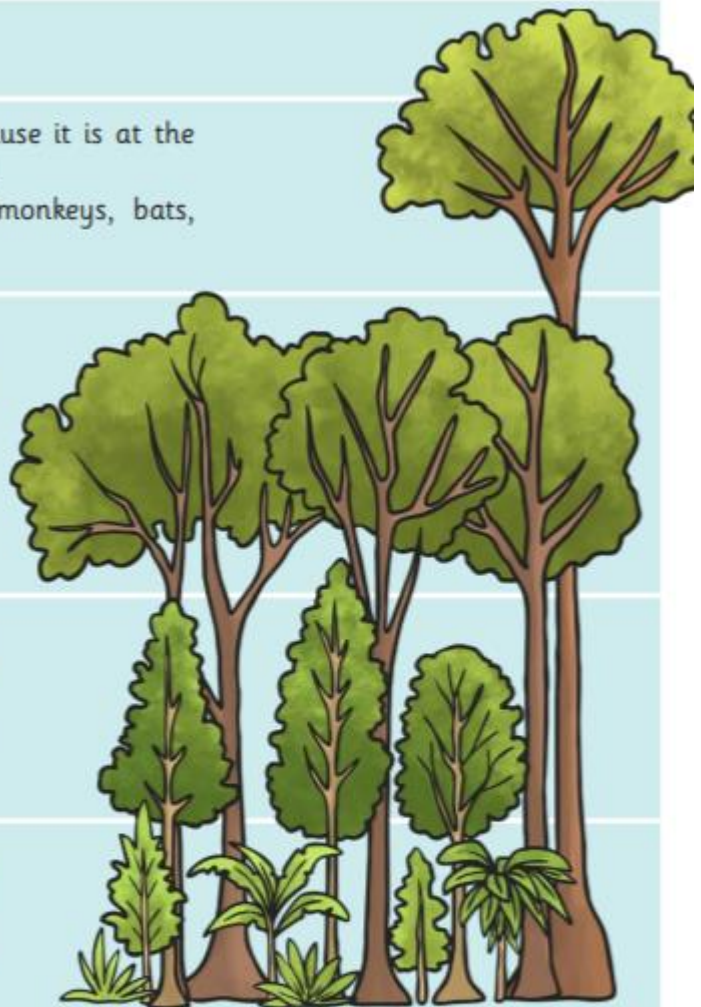
Understory Layer - Many vines and dense vegetation can be found here. There is very little light.

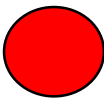
Who lives here? Birds, butterflies, frogs and snakes.

Forest Floor – A damp part of the forest full of many dead leaves, twigs and dead plants. The forest floor is dark; it is estimated that only 2% of the sunlight actually reaches the floor. When it rains, it takes around ten minutes for the water to reach the ground due to the thickness of the canopy.

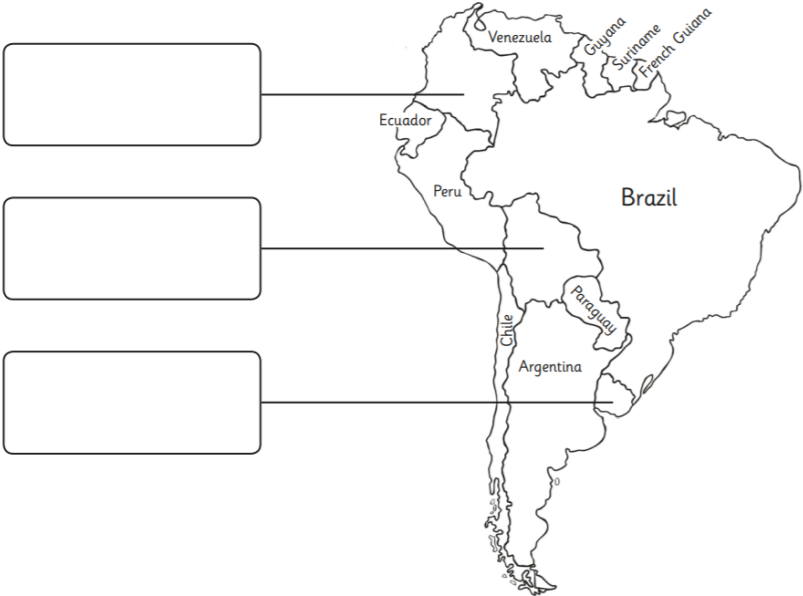
Who lives here? It is teeming with insect life and is home to the biggest animals of the rainforest.

In the Water – Beware... electric eels, anacondas and piranhas all live in the water!





1. Write in the boxes the names of the missing countries.



2. Draw lines to match the correct information.

Brasilia

São Paulo

Salvador

Rio de Janeiro

historic centre

capital city

largest city

second largest city

3. Look at the text box about the Brazilian flag and complete the table below.

Feature	Represents
yellow diamond	
white stars	
dark green background	

4. 'This area of immense natural beauty'

In this sentence, the word **immense** is closest in meaning to...

Tick **one**

colourful

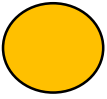
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varied

☐

great

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5. Why do you think that the forest floor is dark? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

6. 'Yellow **represents** the gold reserves the country holds.'

In this sentence, the word **represents** is closest in meaning to...

Tick **one**

shows

☐

symbolises

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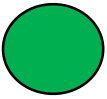
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7. The Amazon rainforest is sometimes referred to as 'the lungs of the Earth.'

What does this tell you about the rainforest?

8. Brazil is a popular destination for many tourists. Use evidence from the text to explain why you think this is.



9. The Amazon is the world's largest tropical rainforest. Covering over 5.5 million square kilometres, it is so big that the UK and Ireland would fit into it 17 times!

How does this comparison help the reader understand the size of the Amazon?

10. How does the information about the Brazilian flag support the other information in the text?

11. Across the globe is a white banner that reads, 'Ordem E Progresso', which translates in English to 'Order and Progress'.

Explain **two** things that the words **order** and **progress** suggest about the country of Brazil.
