

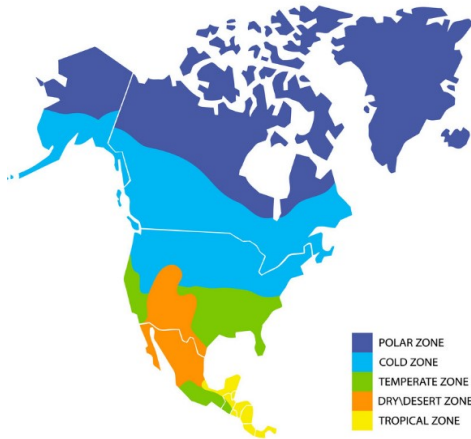
The Americas

- The Americas are two separate **continents** consisting of North America and South America.
- North America contains 23 different countries.
- The Americas cover a huge area of the globe, extending over several lines of **latitude** and **longitude**.
- The characteristics of different countries and regions vary significantly, including **weather**, land use and **flora** and **fauna**.



Year 6 Knowledge Organiser

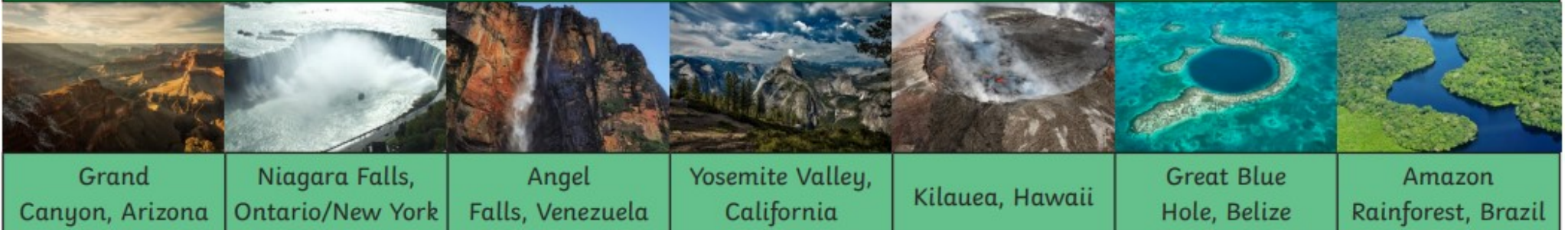
NORTH AMERICA CLIMATE ZONES



Key Vocabulary

biomes	A large geographical area which is home to certain plants and animals, specially adapted to suit the environment.
climate	The usual or average weather conditions over a long period of time.
continent	A large landmass made up of many countries .
country	An area that is controlled by its own government.
equator	An imaginary line around the globe at latitude 0° north dividing the earth into northern and southern hemispheres.
flora/fauna	Plant and animal life.
latitude	Imaginary parallel lines which circle the globe from east to west.
longitude	Imaginary lines which run north to south across the globe from pole to pole.
weather	The specific atmospheric conditions on a given day including temperature and rainfall.

Some of the Natural Wonders of the Americas





Facts about North America

- **Population:** more than half a billion people!
- **Land Mass:** 24,680,330 square kilometres (or 95,29,130 square miles). This is the third largest continent after **Asia** which takes the gold medal for size while **Africa** that takes the silver.
- **Countries:** 23
- **Highest Peak:** the USA's **Denali** rises to 6,168 metres (20,237 feet) above sea level.
- **Largest Lake:** Lake Superior is 82,100 square kilometres (31,700 square miles) in area, about the same size as the country of Panama. It's the largest lake in the world!
- **Longest River:** The **Mississippi River** is 5,960 kilometres (3,700 miles) long.
- **Smallest Country (by land area and population):** **St Kitts and Nevis**, a two-island nation in the Caribbean.
- **Biggest Country (by land area):** **Canada** is close to 10 million square kilometres in size. The **UK** could fit inside its borders forty times over!
- **Largest Nation (of people):** the USA is home to almost 312 million, more than half of the population of North America.
- **Languages:** English, Spanish and French are most commonly spoken. In the Canadian state of Quebec four of every five people speak French at home.

Volcanoes / North America



Mount Saint Helens
2,550 m



Mount Rainier
4,392 m



Kīlauea
1,247 m



Mount Shasta
4,322 m



Yellowstone Caldera
3,142 m



Mauna Loa
4,169 m



Native Americans

People lived in North America long before the arrival of **Christopher Columbus** and the Europeans. These people and cultures are called **Native American Indians**.

The first people to live in a land are called the **indigenous people**. This means they were the original settlers. The Native Americans, also known as **American Indians**, are the indigenous peoples and cultures of the North American continent (today's **United States** and **Canada**).

There were hundreds of tribes throughout the United States when Columbus first arrived. Many of them are well known such as the **Cherokee**, **Apache**, and the **Navajo**. Small tribes often made up part of larger tribes or communities and they largely lived in peace with each other.



The American flag is made up of 50 stars and 13 horizontal stripes. The red and blue are very specific shades called 'Old Glory red' and 'Old Glory blue'.

The stars represent each American state and the stripes represent the 13 British colonies that declared independence from Great Britain.

Volcanoes / North America