A LOOK AT CONTINENTS

EXPLORE SOUTH AMERICA



pogo

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CHAPTER 1

THE ANDES AND THE AMAZON

Let's explore South America! Historians think Machu Picchu used to be a palace! These **ruins** are 7,710 feet (2,350 meters) up in the Andes Mountains.



Preview only

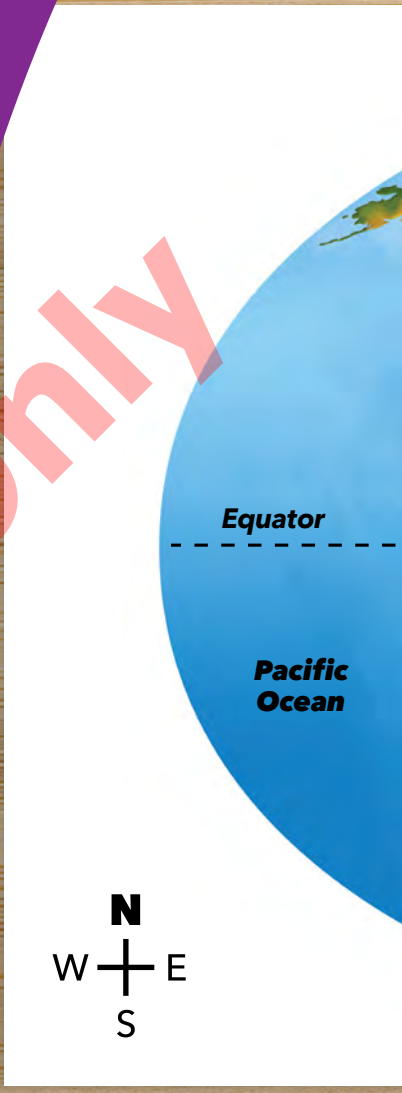
The Andes Mountains are in western South America. They are about 5,500 miles (8,851 kilometers) long. High **plateaus** cover the northeast part of the **continent**.



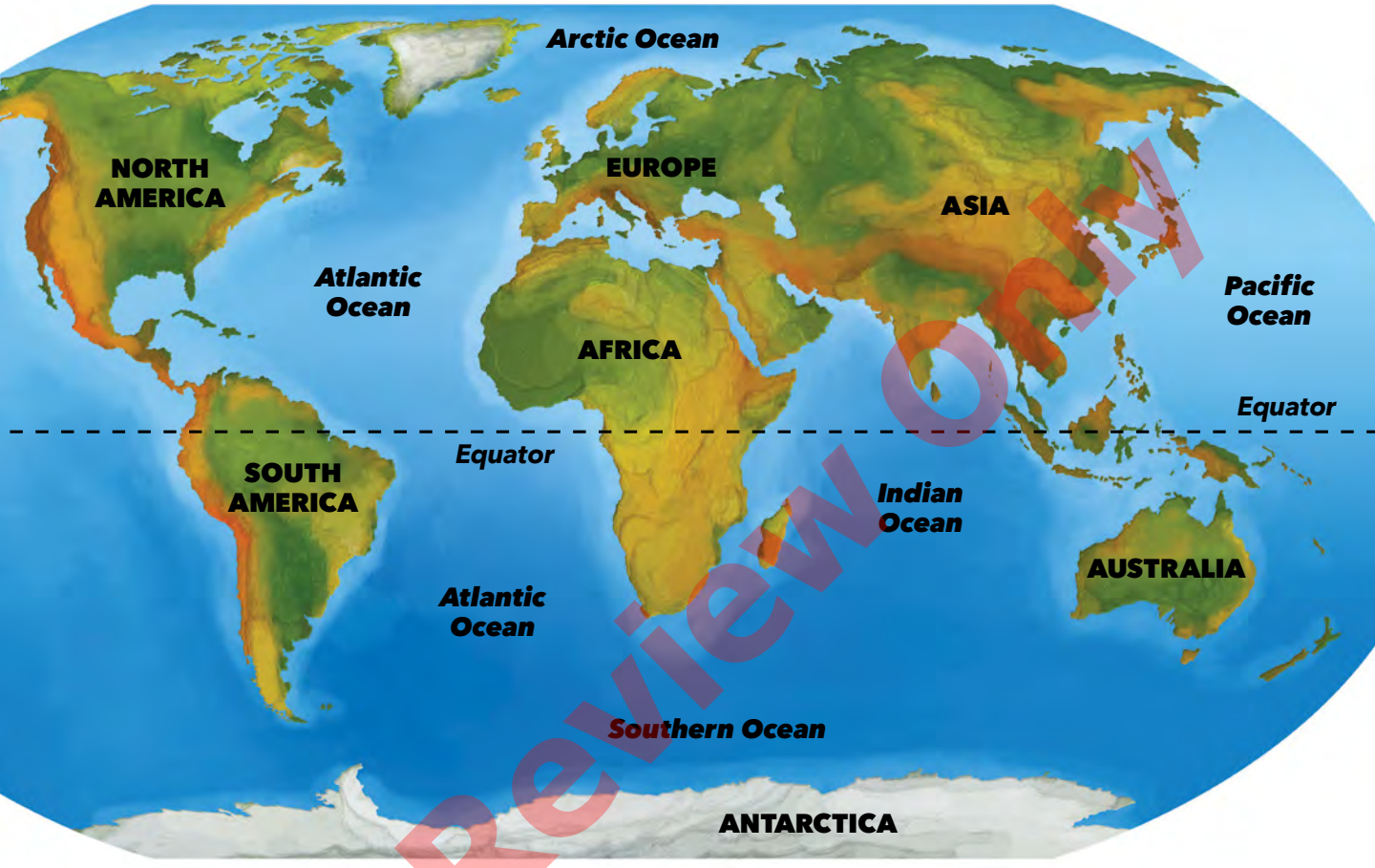
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South America is one of the seven continents. It is the fourth largest. It is almost totally surrounded by water.

The **equator** crosses through this continent. It is in both the Northern and Southern **Hemispheres**.



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The Amazon Rain Forest covers much of the northern part of this continent. It is the largest **tropical** rain forest in the world. Millions of types of plants, animals, and insects live here. Monkeys swing from the many trees.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Amazon Rain Forest is shrinking. Why? Humans are cutting down its trees. Some people want to protect this rain forest. Do you want to? Why or why not?



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QUICK FACTS & TOOLS

AT A GLANCE



SOUTH AMERICA

Size: 6,878,000 square miles (17,813,938 square km)

Size Rank: Asia, Africa, North America, **South America**, Antarctica, Europe, Australia

Population Estimate: 430 million people (2019 estimate)

Exports: sugar, bananas, cocoa, cotton

Facts: South America makes up about 12 percent of Earth's land.

The Andes Mountains are the longest above-water mountain range in the world.

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