



# Brilliant Brazil

## Key Vocabulary

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

## The Americas

- The Americas are two separate continents consisting of North America and South America.
- North America contains 23 different countries and South America has 12.
- 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.



## Do you remember?

### How Can You Compare Different Places?

Physical Geography	Human Geography
The natural features of a place or environment.	Features of an environment that have been shaped by people.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• oceans and coastlines</li> <li>• rivers and lakes</li> <li>• mountains and volcanoes</li> <li>• flora and fauna</li> <li>• land-form</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• country/region boundaries</li> <li>• buildings, roads and land use</li> <li>• changes to river courses</li> <li>• languages/signs</li> <li>• religion, government, art and music</li> </ul>



### Physical features of Brazil:

The Caatinga	Amazon River
San Francisco River	Amazon Rainforest
Guiana Highlands	Amazon river mouth
Mato Grosso	Mount Bandeira
Diamantina	Parana River

### Human features of Brazil:

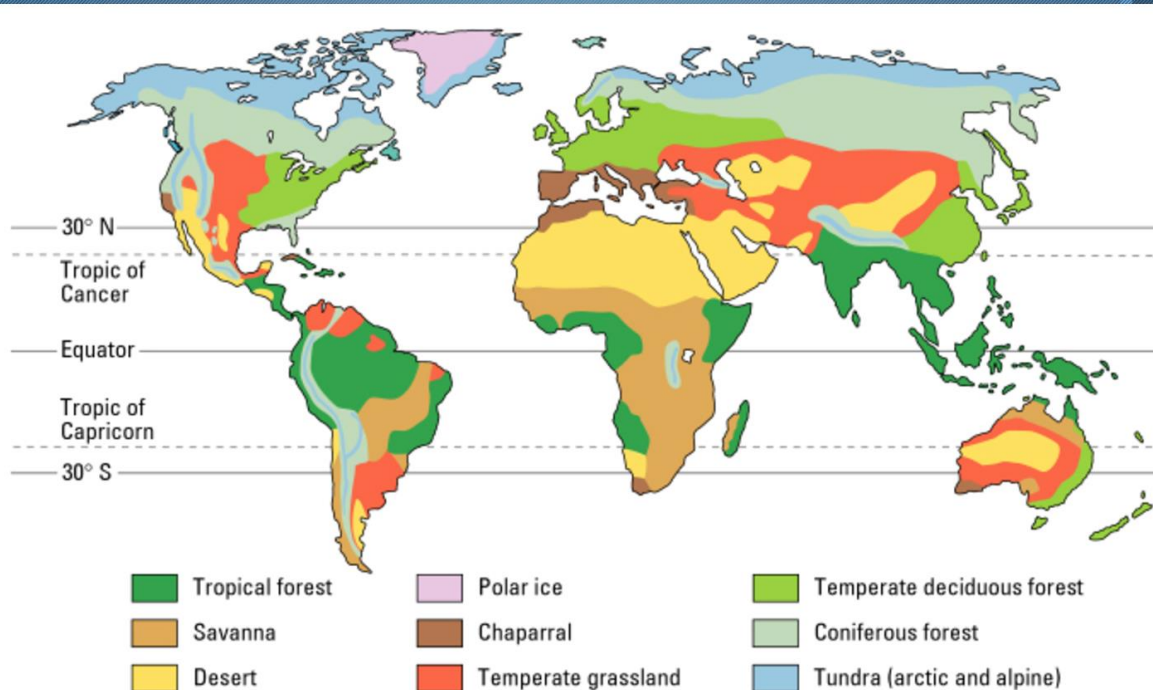
Brasilia	Recife
Porto Alegre	Sao Paulo
Belem	Rio de Janeiro
Fortaleza	Salvador
Manaus	

## Biomes

The five main biomes:

- Desert - hot dry environments with little precipitation
- Aquatic – Marine and freshwater environments
- Forest – Tropical, temperate and boreal forests.
- Tundra – Cold treeless regions in Arctic and Antarctic climates
- Grassland – Large areas of flat land e.g African savannah

**BIOME** is the collection of ecosystems sharing similar climatic conditions.



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### THE EMERGENT LAYER:

The tallest and oldest trees stand watch over the rest of the forest, providing habitat for large birds and primate species.

### THE CANOPY:

Between 50 and 90% of a rainforest's species live in the canopy. Leaves take advantage of the bright sun here to power the forest's rapid growth.

### THE UNDERSTORY:

Dark and gloomy, the understory is shielded from the weather above, making it a good nursery for young saplings.

### THE FOREST FLOOR:

Bacteria, fungi and insects rapidly decompose organic matter, recycling nutrients for use by other organisms.