

Key Facts – What you need to know

- The location of The Amazon and its significance.
- The importance of the Amazon Basin and Rainforest.
- What the threats to the Amazon are.
- The human and physical features of Manaus.
- Similarities and differences between the Amazon Basin, south east Brazil and where we live.

Key facts

The 12 independent countries of South America:

Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Human aspects of the amazon basin:

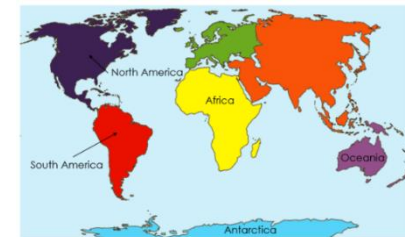
Settlement	Sparsely populated. Most of the population live in large cities on the banks of the Amazon River. There are many thatched houses and also apartment-like houses called 'Maloca'.
Languages	Portuguese and Spanish
Agriculture	Rice, beans, corn, cocoa, fishing, chicken.

Key Vocabulary

Amazon Basin	The part of South America drained by the Amazon River and its tributaries.
Latitude	A measurement of distance from the equator (North or South)
Longitude	A measurement of how far east or west it is.
Equator	An imaginary circle around the earth which divides the Earth into two equal parts.
Region	An area of a country that has common features.
Tributaries	A small river or stream that meets a large river
Source	Where a river begins its journey
Mouth	Where the river enters the sea
Rainforest	A tropical woodland with an annual rainfall of at least 100 inches.
Climate	The general weather conditions of an area
Vegetation	Plants, trees or flowers
Biome	A large region of the Earth that has a certain climate and certain types of vegetation and animals.
Settlement	The places people live



Pictures and Diagrams



Physical aspects of the Amazon Basin:

Climate	Hot, rainy and humid. It rains virtually every day. There are two distinct seasons: wet season (September to May) and dry season (June to August).
Vegetation	Tropical evergreen trees that are incredibly tall. They can be 130 feet in many places. It is also home to many types of orchids, rubber trees and tropical fruit trees that can grow Brazil nuts and cocoa. The tallest tree is the kapok tree that can reach a height of 200 feet.
Animals	More than 8000 species of insects, 2500 fish species. Birds such as parrots, macaws, hawks. Mammals such as jaguars and monkeys.