

# South America

## Learning Objective:

To find out about the location and countries of South America.

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What do you already know  
about South America?



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How many of these questions do you think you can answer?

What is South America?

What countries are there in South America?

How big is South America?

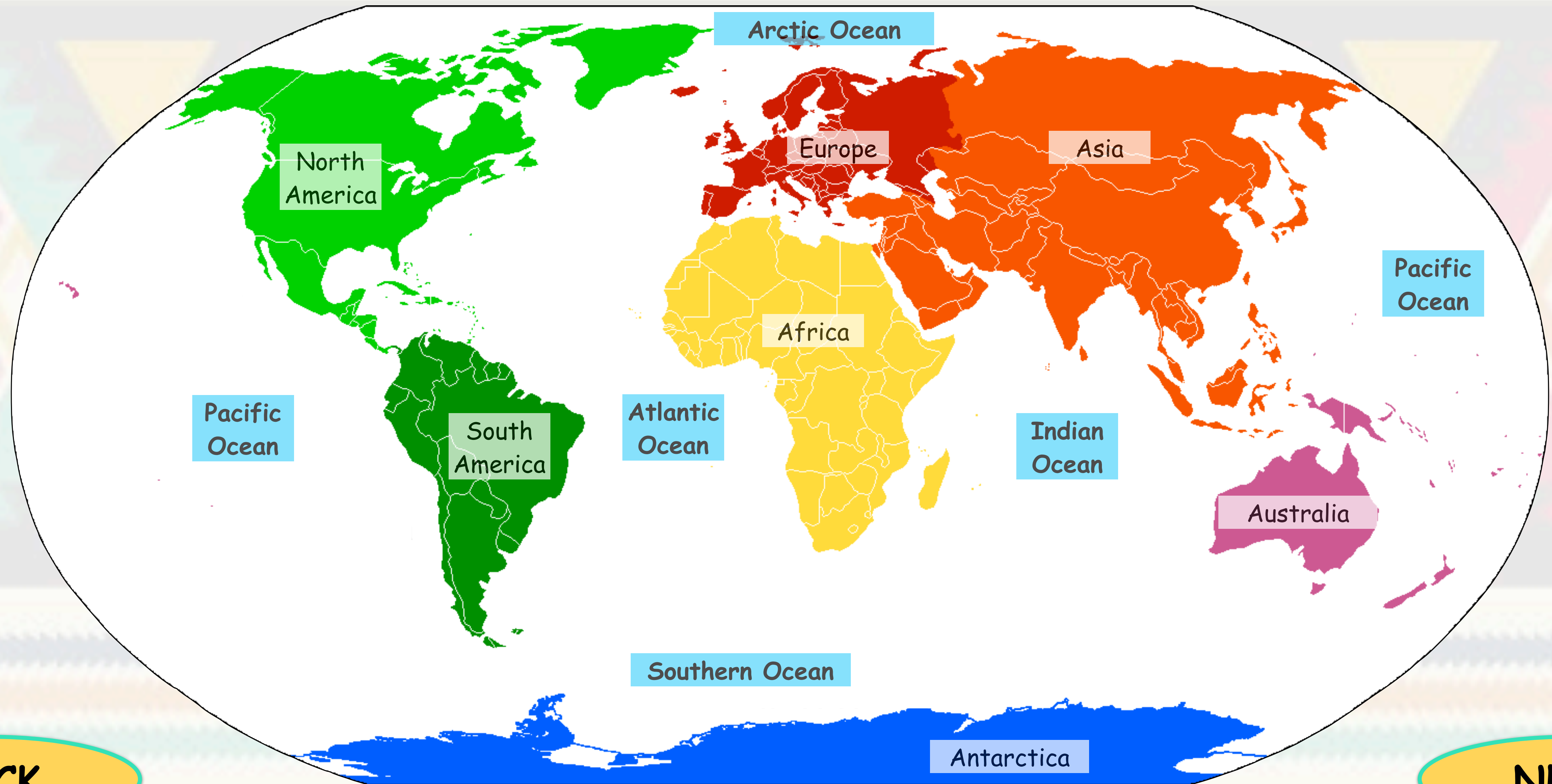
Which seas and oceans surround South America?

What languages are spoken in South America?

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South America is a continent in the southern hemisphere. It is surrounded by the Pacific, Atlantic and Southern Oceans.



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South America has an area of 17,840,000km<sup>2</sup> and a population of approximately 388 million people. It is the fourth largest continent on Earth.

It is home to the world's largest river by volume, the Amazon River, which mainly runs through rainforest rather than towns or cities.



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South America is made up of 12 countries and 2 separate territories.  
The Falkland Islands belong to the UK and French Guiana is part of France. The 12 countries are:



Argentina  
Bolivia  
Brazil  
Chile  
Colombia  
Ecuador

Guyana  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Suriname  
Uruguay  
Venezuela

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There are lots of different languages that are spoken in South America. A lot of the main languages came to South America when it was settled by Europeans which began in the 15th century.



As well as the main languages, there are also many indigenous languages that are spoken in many areas, such as Quechua which is spoken in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador. In Brazil alone, there are around 180 indigenous languages.

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How many of the  
questions were you  
right about?

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South America is a large continent. Like any large area, there is a wide range of landscapes, people, settlements, animals and cultures.



We are going to be finding out about South America over the next few lessons. What else would you like to find out about?

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