

History

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.

Is North America more than just the USA?

Map and Overview



-North America is the world's third largest continent by area. It covers about 24.7 million km², which is about 16.5% of the earth's total land area.

-North America is the fourth most populous continent, after Asia, Africa and Europe. Its population is about 580 million people.

-North America is in the western hemisphere (apart from Hawaii and parts of Alaska) and the northern hemisphere.

-The first people reached America over a frozen crossing from Siberia in the last Ice Age, between 40,000 and 15,000 years ago.

Countries of North America

Largest N. American countries

1. Canada – 9.98 million km²
2. USA – 9.83 million km²
3. Greenland (Den) – 2.16 million km²
4. Mexico – 1.96 million km²
5. Nicaragua – 130,375 km²

There are 23 countries in North America, and a further 9 states that are listed as dependencies of other nations.

Most populous N. American countries

1. USA – 328 million people
2. Mexico – 132 million people
3. Canada – 37 million people
4. Guatemala – 18 million people
5. Cuba – 11 million people

The United States



The United States is a large country made up of 50 states – including 48 on the US mainland, plus Alaska and Hawaii. It has the largest population of any country in North America, and the third largest population in the world. The USA is considered the richest and most powerful country in the world, at the forefront of world politics and economy.

Canada



Canada is the largest country by area in North America, and the second largest in the world (after Russia). As a whole, Canada is very sparsely populated – most of its population lives along the US border in the south, whilst very few people live in the central and northern areas of the country. Most of its land is dominated by forest and tundra.

Central America



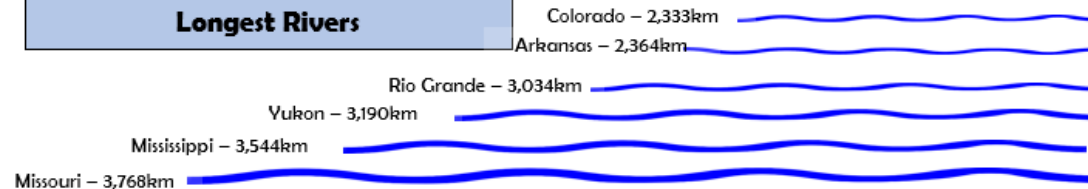
Central America is the region found on the southern tip of North America, and contains many smaller nations: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. The countries have many cultural similarities, and Spanish is the main language in the region. The area is sometimes considered as its own microcontinent.

The Caribbean Islands



The Caribbean Islands are a number of tropical islands based in the Caribbean Sea off North America. The sea is considered as a part of the Atlantic Ocean. It is bordered by Mexico and Central America. Cuba is by far the largest Caribbean Island, with an area of 105,806 km². The Caribbean Islands are sometimes referred to as the West Indies.

Longest Rivers



Art and Design and Technology

We will evaluate and reflect on the work of Jean Michel Basquiat, a famous North American artist who used patterns to create surreal images. We will then use a wide range of pattern techniques to create a range of effects and textures.

As well as this we will research and develop design criteria to inform the design of a classic burger. Sketches and plans based on our research will allow us to select materials and equipment to create these tasty treats. All along we will consider the nutrition and healthy lifestyles before evaluating our creations.

