

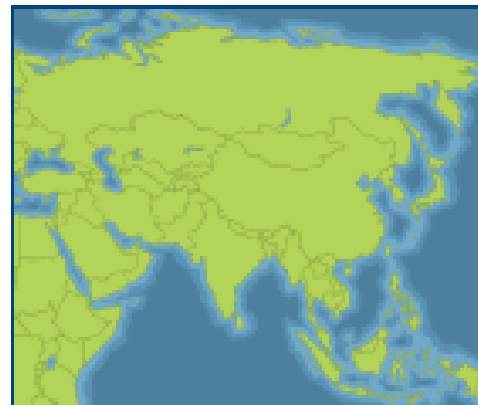
Continents of the World

A continent is a massive area of land separated by water or other natural features, like mountains. There are seven continents in the world. This is called the seven-continent model.



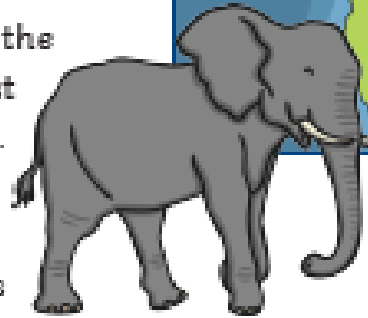
Asia

Asia is the largest continent in the world. About 60% of the people on Earth live here. Asia has 48 countries, including India, Japan and China. The Himalayas, the tallest mountains in the world, are in Asia. Deep in the Himalayas, you will find Mount Everest, the highest mountain on Earth. In Asia, you will also find the lowest point on land, the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea is so salty that nothing can live in the water. Asia is also home to tigers, Asian elephants, monkeys and giant pandas.



Africa

Africa is the second largest continent in the world. Africa has 54 countries, more than any other continent. They include South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya. Here you will find the amazing pyramids of Egypt. Africa has the longest river in the world, the Nile. Africa also has the biggest non-polar desert, the Sahara. Watermelon and coffee are originally from Africa. Africa is home to rhinos, lions, giraffes and elephants.



North America

North America is the third largest continent. Countries here include the USA, Canada and Mexico. Corn and pumpkins come from North America originally. Animals found in North America include skunks, bears and moose.



South America

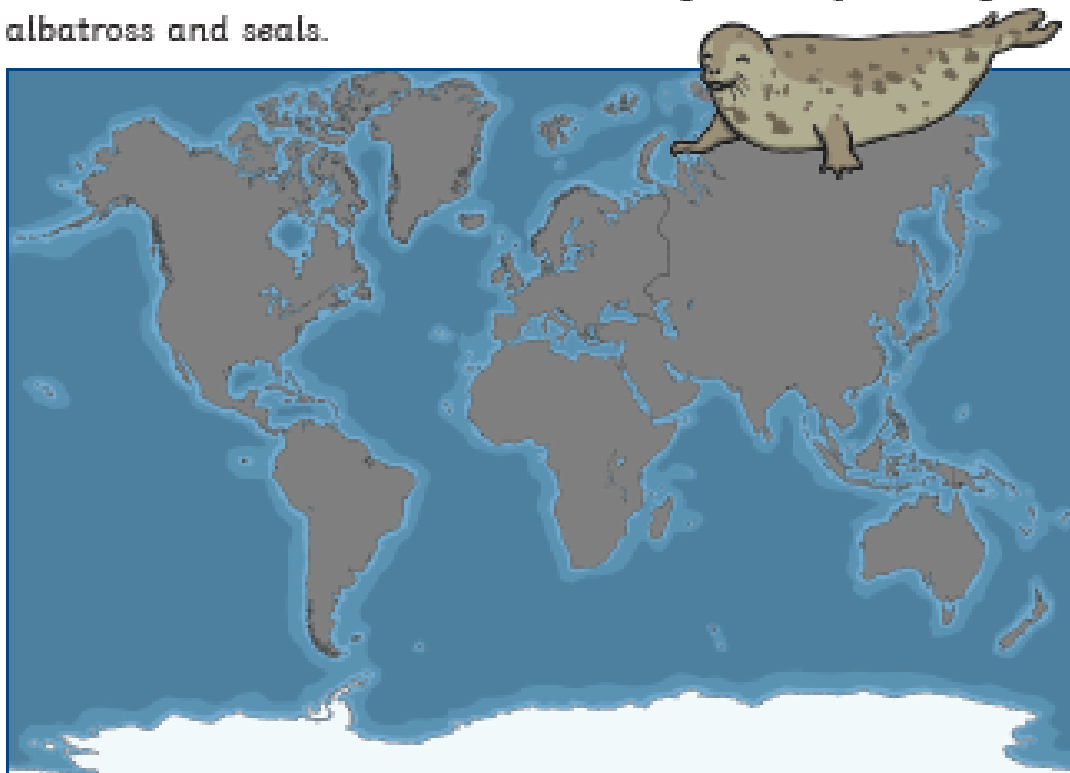
South America is the fourth largest continent in the world. South America has 12 countries, including Brazil, Peru and Argentina. South America is home to the largest rainforest in the world, the Amazon. The jagged Andes mountain range runs the length of the continent. Potatoes, tomatoes and chocolate originally

came from South America. The main languages spoken in South America are Spanish and Portuguese. Animals you will find here include sloths, llamas and jaguars.



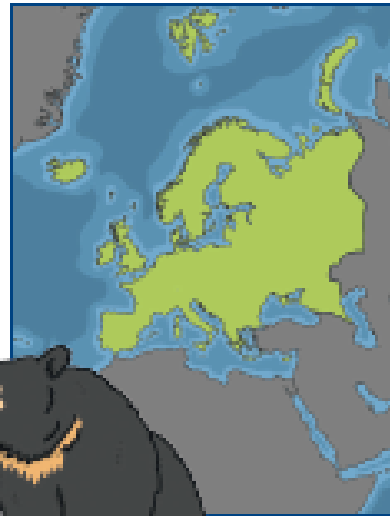
Antarctica

Antarctica is the third smallest continent in the world. It is almost totally covered in ice. Near the centre of Antarctica is the South Pole. The continent is completely surrounded by the Southern Ocean. Antarctica is the coldest and windiest continent on Earth and no trees grow there. Every year, hundreds of scientists live and work in Antarctica. In Antarctica you will find penguins, albatross and seals.



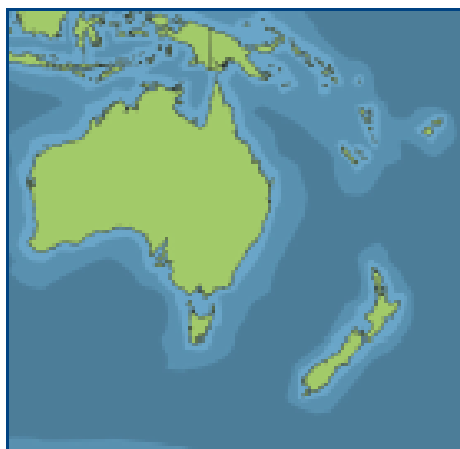
Europe

Europe is the second smallest continent in the world. It has 44 countries, including France, Italy and the United Kingdom. Here you will find famous man-made landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower, Colosseum and Stonehenge. Some parts of Europe are very cold and other parts are very warm. Apples, pears and raspberries come from Europe originally. Animals you will find in Europe include foxes, bears and wolves.



Australasia

Australasia is the smallest continent in the world. It is also sometimes called an island-continent. Here you will find the



largest coral reef in the world, the Great Barrier Reef. Aboriginal Australasia arrived in Australasia more than 50,000 years ago.

Australasia has many animals that are found nowhere else on Earth. These include kangaroos, emus, platypus and koalas.



Six Continent Model

Most people believe that there are seven continents in the world. However, some scientists believe that there are only six continents. This is because they think that some continents should be joined together like this:



North America + South America = the Americas



Europe + Asia = Eurasia

Questions

1. What is a continent?

2. Write the continents in order from largest to smallest.

3. Name a famous place you would find in:

• Africa

• Europe

• Asia

4. Name an animal you would find in:

• Australasia

• North America

• Antarctica

• South America

Questions

5. Think about the six continent model. What continents might you have?

Answers

1. What is a continent?

A continent is a massive area of land separated by water or other natural features like mountains.

2. Write the continents in order from largest to smallest.

Asia

Africa

North America

South America

Antarctica

Europe

Australasia

3. Name a famous place you would find in:

Africa – Sahara Desert, pyramids of Egypt, Nile river

Europe – Eiffel Tower, Colosseum, Stonehenge

Asia – Himalayas, Mt Everest, Dead Sea

4. Name an animal you would find in:

Australasia – kangaroos, emus, platypus, koalas

North America – skunks, bears, moose

Antarctica – penguins, albatross, seal

South America – sloths, llamas, jaguars

5. Think about the six-continent model. What continents might you have?

Answers may vary. Some examples could be:

- Eurasia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Australasia
- Asia, Africa, the Americas, Antarctica, Europe, Australasia