





## North America

**Big question: How and why is the physical landscape of America so diverse?**

Vocabulary		
1	<b>equator</b>	The imaginary line around the Earth that divides it into equal north and south parts.
2	<b>Tropic of Cancer</b>	Imaginary latitude line located above the equator.
3	<b>Tropic of Capricorn</b>	Imaginary latitude line located below the equator.
4	<b>population</b>	The number of people living in a particular place.
5	<b>climate</b>	The weather conditions that an area usually has.
6	<b>biome</b>	A region of the Earth's surface and the combination of climate, plants and animals found in it.
7	<b>continent</b>	One of the 7 large landmasses of the Earth.
8	<b>climate zone</b>	Areas of the world with specific patterns of weather.
9	<b>latitude</b>	The distance of a place north or south of the equator measured in degrees.
10	<b>Northern Hemisphere</b>	The part of the planet that is north of the equator.
11	<b>Southern Hemisphere</b>	The part of the planet that is south of the equator.
12	<b>states</b>	Different territories of the USA (51)
13	<b>physical features</b>	Natural features of the Earth eg mountains, lakes, rivers, deserts
14	<b>human features</b>	Things that are made or built by humans.
15	<b>capital city</b>	USA: Washington DC; Mexico: Mexico city Canada: Ottawa



Physical features		
<p><b>Grand Canyon, Arizona USA.</b> Deep crevices carved out by the Colorado River.</p> 	<p><b>Mexico:</b> A land of extremes: High mountains and deep canyons in the centre; deserts in the North; and dense rainforests in the South and East.</p> 	<p><b>Canadian lakes:</b> there are more than a million lakes in Canada. It has the largest number of lakes in the world.</p> 
<p><b>Rocky Mountains:</b> Mountain range running along the Western edge of North America. The 'Rockies' stretch for 3000 miles and in some places are 300 miles wide.</p> 	<p>The <b>Niagara Falls</b> border the USA and Canada. They are the largest in North America and are made up of 3 waterfalls.</p> 	<p>The <b>Hubbard Glacier</b> in Alaska, USA is a slow moving river of ice. It takes about 400 years for the ice to travel the length of the glacier.</p> 

California- regions			
Coastal	Desert	Valley	Mountain
 <p>The Californian coast stretches 1264 miles along the coast. Warm summers and mild winters, warm eater and sandy beaches in the South. Wetter and cooler in the North with rocky beaches and colder water.</p>	 <p>The Desert Region includes 3 deserts: The Mojave, Colorado and Great Basin. The climate is hot and dry with the hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth (134 degrees) in Death Valley. The Great Basin is the only cold desert in the USA, receiving its precipitation from snow.</p>	 <p>The Valley Region is located in central California. This region produces half of the world's vegetables, fruits and nuts. It has a Mediterranean climate and produces 90% of the world's almonds each year.</p>	 <p>Located in the North part of the state. The climate is cool, foggy and moist. The region is a top producer of timber, wine and nuts. The region contains mountains, valleys, rivers, lakes and streams. The highest elevation in continental USA is here on Mount Whitney.</p>



