

South America: Scientific Investigation Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART 1: SCIENTIFIC PHENOMENON OBSERVATION

Lesson 1 Big Idea South America is a continent made up of diverse physical features, wildlife, climates, and resources Main Ideas •Coastal lowlands, mountains and highlands, and river systems shape much of Caribbean South America.

I notice:

I wonder:

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY SYSTEMS

Label each description with the correct human geography system: Urban, Cultural, Economic, Political, or Infrastructure.

1. _____ Major cities in South America
2. _____ Languages spoken in South America
3. _____ Economic activities in South America
4. _____ Political boundaries in South America
5. _____ Transportation networks in South America
6. _____ Religious practices in South America
7. _____ Agricultural patterns in South America
8. _____ Historical settlements in South America

PART 3: DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS

Collect data about the geographic features of South America using the table below.

Feature	Observations	Significance
Climate		
Landforms		
Water Features		
Vegetation		

Analysis Questions:

1. What patterns do you notice in the data? _____

2. How do these features interact with each other? _____

3. What might explain these geographic patterns? _____

PART 4: MODEL DEVELOPMENT

Create a model showing how the geographic features of South America interact. Label each feature and draw arrows showing the interactions.

Draw your model in this space

Model Key:

Arrow direction shows: _____

Dotted lines represent: _____

PART 5: SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION

Using your model and what you've learned about South America, explain how the geographic features of this region influence human settlement and activities.

PART 6: REFLECTION

Complete the following sentences:

My model shows _____ about South America because:

One way humans have adapted to the geography of South America is:

