

# AFRICA'S PHYSICAL FEATURES



## Looking high and low in Africa

This continent's physical features are impressive.

From mountains and sleeping volcanoes, like Mount Kilimanjaro, to some of the world's deepest lakes and grassy plains, there's so much to see in Africa.



Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania

## The Sahara Desert

The world's largest hot desert is called the Sahara. El Azizia, in Libya, is the place where the hottest temperature ever was recorded. It was a scorching 57 °C!

Not many people live here, but some plants and animals can survive in this desert.



Rocky peaks in the Sahara Desert



Okapi: also known as the forest giraffe

## The Congo Rainforest

Africa has the second largest tropical rainforest in the world.

Africa's Congo Rainforest is home to many different animals. Our favourite is the stripey Okapi.

## Water features in Africa

Lake Victoria is the world's second largest inland lake.

The River Nile is the world's longest river. It flows north from Lake Victoria all the way to the Mediterranean Sea.

Many millions of people in Egypt depend on the River Nile for their water.



The city of Cairo is on the Nile

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## Madagascar's wildlife

The island of Madagascar is famous for its wonderful wildlife that doesn't live anywhere else. There are more than a hundred types of lemur in Madagascar, including the rather shy aye aye.



Ring-tailed lemurs of Madagascar

Odd and Izzi couldn't get a snap of the aye aye. It only comes out at night, but these ring-tailed lemurs really put on a show!

## The African savanna

Four out of the five fastest land animals live on this continent:

- cheetah
- wildebeest
- lion
- Thomson's gazelle



Herds of wildebeest and zebra on the move

Savanna is the name for places where grasses grow to knee height and umbrella-shaped trees dot the landscape.

In the Serengeti, millions of animals move together, following the rains that make the grass grow in the savanna. There's such a lot going on in Africa!

## Key words:

desert      feature      herd      lake      physical  
rainforest      savanna      volcano      wildlife



# ANTARCTICA



## What is it like?

Welcome to Antarctica, the coldest place on Earth.

This great, white continent is covered in ice and snow. The South Pole can be found here.



Antarctica is a wilderness of ice and snow

## Antarctic weather

The lowest temperature recorded here was  $-89^{\circ}\text{C}$ . That is very, very cold!

It is also the windiest place on Earth.



Scientists want to know more about the weather here

## How many people live here?

Answer: zero! Antarctica is so cold that nobody lives here full time.

Scientists stay in Antarctica for a few months. They want to find out more about this special place.



A science base in Paradise Harbour, Antarctica

## Who owns it?

Antarctica is a continent unlike any other, because it has no countries. Instead, there are areas called territories.

These territories are claimed by different countries, including the UK and Australia. But they don't own them.



Antarctica is in blue

# ANTARCTICA



## An icy desert

Antarctica is a desert! The climate is very dry. It hardly ever rains. Almost all of the water here is frozen.

People use special boats to cross the sea, called ice-breakers.

Three-quarters of the world's fresh water is found in Antarctica.



An ice-breaker ship slices sea ice

## Antarctic animals

Nothing much lives in the middle of this continent, but lots of amazing animals live in or just by the sea. Whales, seals, birds and penguins all live here.

Different kinds of penguins live in Antarctica:

- Adelie
- Chinstrap
- Emperor
- Gentoo
- Macaroni



An Emperor penguin chick

## Key words:

desert   claim   climate   penguin   scientist   temperature





Asia is a super-size continent: with 48 countries, it covers about one-third of all the land in the world. There are more people living in Asia than in any other continent! Some parts are really busy and crowded – especially the cities. But Asia also has large, empty deserts, and towering snowy mountains, including Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world.

Fancy seeing some other Asian sights? Don't miss the Taj Mahal in India or the Great Wall of China. The food is tasty too – Asia's the home of curry, rice and noodles.



Asia



Giant panda



Taj Mahal, India

### Izzi's Facts



#### How many countries?

48

#### Which hemisphere is Asia in?

Northern Hemisphere

#### Where is it?

Asia has the Pacific Ocean to the east and the Indian Ocean to the south

**Continents from smallest to largest:** Oceania, Europe, Antarctica, South America, North America, Africa, **Asia**

#### Important cities

Bangkok in Thailand, Tokyo in Japan and Shanghai in China

#### Izzi's favourite Asian animals

Komodo dragon, Giant panda, Asian elephant and Indian rhinoceros

#### Top physical features

Mount Everest, the Ganges river and the Dead Sea in Israel

#### Top human features

The Great Wall of China, the Taj Mahal in India and Hong Kong in China

## Asian Fact Cards



#### Asian Facts

Asia is the largest continent in the world, covering about 30% of the land on earth.



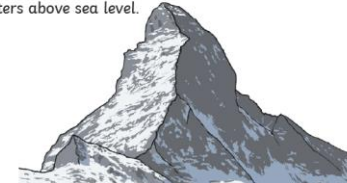
#### Asian Facts

The largest peninsula in the world is the Arabian Peninsula. It consists of the countries of Yemen, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.



#### Asian Facts

14 of the tallest mountains in the world can be found in Asia. All of them are more than 8000 meters above sea level.



#### Asian Facts

The deepest trench in the world is the Mariana Trench, which is found in Asia. It is in the Pacific Ocean, near the Philippines. It is 11,034 metres deep.



#### Asian Facts

There are about 2,300 different languages spoken in Asia.



#### Asian Facts

The Asian population is approximately 60% of the world's population (as of 2019).



#### Asian Facts

More than 90% of the world's rice is consumed in Asian countries.



Europe is a continent with a lot of differences. There are snow-covered mountains and glaciers, cool green valleys and countryside, and hot summer beach resorts. Tiny countries and huge ones join together to make up this continent – there are 46 countries altogether.

Europe is famous for its cities – modern and very old – and for its attractions like the Eiffel Tower in Paris and Buckingham Palace in London. Perhaps your favourite food is pasta or pizza? Both come from Italy in Europe!



Europe



Deer, United Kingdom



Geyser, Iceland

### Izzi's Facts

#### How many countries?

46

#### Which hemisphere is Europe in?

Northern Hemisphere

#### Where is it?

Europe has the Mediterranean Sea to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the west and north

#### Continent size from smallest to largest:

Oceania, **Europe**, Antarctica, South America, North America, Africa, Asia

#### Important cities

Paris in France, Berlin in Germany and Rome in Italy.

#### Izzi's favourite European animals

Puffin, fox, badger, polar bear and deer

#### Top physical features

The Alps mountain range, the Geysers in Iceland and Mount Etna, a volcano in Italy

#### Top human features

Stonehenge in England, the Eiffel Tower in France and the Colosseum in Italy

# Introduction

Europe is one of the seven continents. The other six are; **North America**, **South America**, **Africa**, **Asia**, **Australasia** and **Antarctica**.

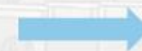


Europe is the second smallest continent in size.

There are around **50 countries** in Europe, including England, France, Croatia and part of Russia.

**743 million** people (743,000,000) are thought to live in Europe, making it the third largest continent by population.

Most countries use the **Euro** as their currency.



There are lots of religions across Europe, the most practised being Christianity.

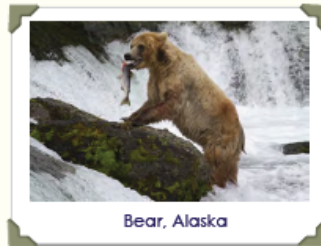


# Fact-file North America



North America is the third-largest continent, with 23 countries altogether, including the USA, Canada and Mexico. It's a continent with a lot of differences: you'll find polar bears in the Arctic north and steamy rainforests in Costa Rica in the south. There are baking-hot deserts in the west and tropical beaches on Caribbean islands.

Lake Superior in North America is the largest lake in the world – it's the same size as some entire countries! There are many other famous sights, like New York City, Niagara Falls and the Grand Canyon.



## Izzi's Facts

**How many countries?**  
23

**Which hemisphere is North America in?**  
Northern Hemisphere

**Where is it?**  
North America has the Arctic Ocean to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west

**Continents from smallest to largest:**  
Oceania, Europe, Antarctica, South America, **North America**, Africa, Asia

**Important cities**  
New York in the USA, Toronto in Canada and Mexico City in Mexico

**Izzi's favourite North American animals**  
Red-eyed tree frog, grizzly bear and moose

**Top physical features**  
The Rockies in Canada, Moraine Lake in Canada and the Grand Canyon in the USA

**Top human features**  
The Empire State Building in the USA, Chichen Itza (a temple in Mexico) and the CN Tower in Canada

## North America Fact Cards

Over 370 million people live in North America.



## North America Fact Cards

430 languages are spoken in North America. English is the language most commonly spoken - followed by Spanish.



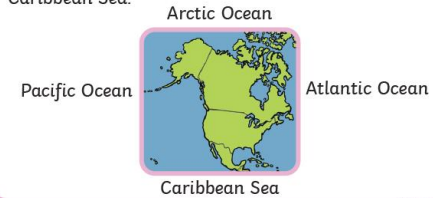
## North America Fact Cards

North America is home to many wild animals. These include raccoons, black bears, alligators, bald eagles, Canadian geese and beavers.



## North America Fact Cards

North America is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean, the Arctic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.



## North America Fact Cards

The highest mountain in North America is Denali, also known as Mount McKinley. It is in Alaska and is 6190 metres high.



## North America Fact Cards

The longest river in North America is the Missouri, which is in the USA. It is 3767 kilometres long.



## North America Fact Cards

The Golden Gate Bridge is a famous bridge in North America. It is in the USA and connects San Francisco and Marin County.



## North America Fact Cards

The Rocky Mountains are in Canada. Skiing is very popular in the Rockies and lots of people go there to ski.

