BRAZIL
KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Overview

-Brazil is a large country in South America.

-Brazil shares a border with 10 different countries. The only South American countries that it does not border are Chile and Ecuador.

-It also has a long coastline on the Atlantic Ocean.

-Brazil covers an area of 8.51 million km² - by far the largest South American country by area.

-About 209 million people live in Brazil. The capital city is Brasilia.

-Brazil contains about 60% of the Amazon rainforest. It is also home to large, bustling cities like Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo.

Human Geography

The history of Brazil can be split into two distinct sections: Before 1500, Brazil was settled by thousands of small tribes. Post-1500 Portuguese settlers have had a profound impact on all aspects of Brazilian life.

Population		-The population of Brazil is around 212 million people. This is around half of all of the people in South America. Across the country, there are 26.5 people per km², which makes Brazil the 4th most densely populated country in South America (after Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela).
Settlements		-The capital city of Brazil is Brasilia. It was specially designed to be the capital of Brazil, and currently has a population of around 2.4 million. However, Sao Paulo (12.1 million) and Rio de Janeiro (6.3 million) are much larger and more populous cities.
Economic Activity		-The Brazilian real is the national currency of Brazil. There has always been huge inequalities of wealth in Brazil, however between 2004 and 2013 the economy rapidly developed, lifting 29 million people out of poverty.
Resources/ Trade		-The top exports of Brazil are soy beans, iron ore, crude petroleum, raw sugar and cars. Portuguese is the first language of Brazil, which has helped to build strong trade with European countries.

Physical Geography

-Brazil has a wide variety of landscapes, including rainforests, grasslands, mountains and deserts.

-Brazil is the largest country in South America and the fifth largest in the world.

-The majority of the Amazon Rainforest (around 60%) is in Brazil. Much of the climate is tropical, with the south being relatively temperate.

-The Equator runs through northern Brazil. Most of the country lies in the Tropic of Capricorn.

-The highest mountain in Brazil is Pico da Neblina, at 2,994m, a mountain in the Serra da Neblina near the border with Venezuela.

-Other Brazilian highlands are found in the south of the country.

-60% of the Amazon River is in Brazil. By some measures, the Amazon is the longest river in the world! The Rio Parana and Negro River are other large rivers in the country.

Comparison with the UK

-The UK is in Europe, in the northern hemisphere, whilst Brazil is in South America and lies mostly in the southern hemisphere.

-Due to its position over the Equator, most parts of Brazil are much warmer than the UK. The UK has a temperate climate, whilst many parts of Brazil do not have clear seasons.

-Brazil is much larger than the UK – 8.51 million sq. km compared to 243,610sq km.

-More people live in Brazil, 209 million people compared to 66 million in the UK.

-However, Brasilia has a smaller population than London: 2.4 million people compared to 8.4 million.

-Brazil is situated on its continent, whereas the United Kingdom is an island country.

Key Vocabulary

Brazil

South America

Amazon River

Amazon Rainforest

Portuguese

Ancient

Invaders

Atlantic

Rio de Janeiro

Brasilia

Sao Paulo

Equator

Biomes

Brazil Timeline

Before 1500 CE	1500 CE	1532 CE	1549 CE	1565 CE	1789 CE	1822 CE	1889 CE	1917 CE	1960 CE	2000 CE
Local tribes live in peace for thousands of years.	Portuguese explorer Cabral discovers Brazil.	Sao Vicente established as 1st permanent settlement.	Priests arrive to convert locals to Christianity.	The city of Rio de Janeiro is established.	A Brazilian independence movement is stopped by the Portuguese.	Pedro I declares Brazil an independent country.	The monarchy is overthrown.	Brazil fights in WWII on the side of the Allies.	The title of capital city is moved to Brasilia.	Brazil's 500th anniversary is held.