

**Continents and countries**

A continent is a group of countries. There are 7 continents:

- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- North America
- South America
- Oceania
- Antarctica

**The Equator**

The equator is an imaginary line that runs around the centre of the Earth. It lies halfway between the North and South Pole.

Countries around the equator experience a hot climate and do not really experience seasons like we do.

Some of the countries in Africa that the equator passes through are Kenya, Uganda and Somalia.

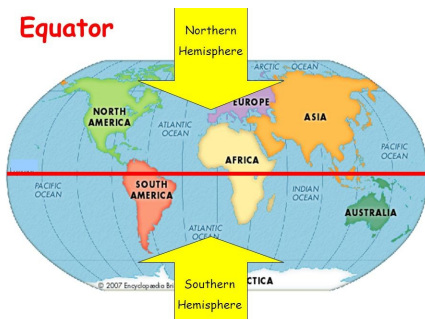
**Hemispheres**

The equator splits the Earth into the North and South Hemisphere.

The Northern Hemisphere is above the equator. Countries in the Northern Hemisphere include the UK, France, North America and some countries in Africa.

The Southern Hemisphere is below the equator. Countries in the Southern Hemisphere include parts of South America, Australia and some countries in Africa.

<b>Key Vocabulary</b>	
Continent	A group of countries
Country	An area of land with boundaries and a political state
Hemisphere	A half of the Earth, split at the equator
Equator	An imaginary line splitting Earth into 2 hemispheres
Climate	The average weather conditions of a place
Environment	The natural surroundings of a place
Massai	An ethnic group living in Kenya or Tanzania
Savannah	A large, flat area of land covered in grass
Plains	A large area of land with few trees
Ivory	A hard, white substance which tusks are made from
Hunters	A person who hunts wild animals
Habitat	A place where an animal, plant or living thing lives
Adaptation	Physical / behavioural changes which allow animals to survive
Evolve	To develop gradually




**Kente Cloth**

Kente is a brightly coloured material and is widely produced in Africa. Kente cloth is made using thin strips which are woven together. These are worn by African people. Kente cloth colours are significant, each meaning something different.



**Nelson Mandela**

Nelson Mandela was a black man in South Africa who fought for equal rights between black and white people. At the time there were laws that forced black and white people to live separate lives. Nelson Mandela spent 27 years in prison because he fought for this. After his release he went on to become the first black head of state and won a Nobel Peace Prize.



**Hunters**

Animals have had to adapt so that they can survive. Their adaptations could help them to catch their food, build home, or survive weather conditions.

Animals evolve over time to adapt to their changing environments so that they can continue to survive.

**Droughts and crop failure**

A drought occurs when there is a shortage of water. This can result in a lack of clean drinking water. Crops need water to grow. When there is a drought, crops do not get the water they need, meaning they will not grow. If there are no crops, people have less food to eat, or, do not have food to sell, meaning they don't have an income.

# **Africa, South America and Russia**

## **South America**

- South America is a continent. A large proportion is located in the southern hemisphere, with a small proportion in the northern hemisphere.
- There are 12 countries in South America. The largest country is Brazil which covers more than half of the land in South America.
- The largest South American country in both size and population is Brazil. The largest city is Sao Paulo, Brazil, which is also one of the ten largest cities in the world.
- Major cities:
  - ◇ Sao Paulo, Brazil
  - ◇ Buenos Aires, Argentina
  - ◇ Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
  - ◇ Santiago, Chile
  - ◇ Brasilia, Brazil
  - ◇ Lima, Peru
  - ◇ Bogota, Colombia
  - ◇ Caracas, Venezuela
  - ◇ Belo Horizonte, Brazil
  - ◇ Medellin, Colombia
- The Atacama Desert in Chile is considered to be one of the driest places on Earth.
- The highest waterfall in the world is Santo del Angel (also called Angel Falls). It is almost 1000 meters high!
- The highest point in South America is Cerro Aconcagua in the Andes Mountains in the country of Argentina.
- The Amazon River is the longest river in South America.
- The Amazon Rainforest is the largest rainforest in the world.

## **Russia**

- Russia is the largest country in the world. It counts for one tenth of all the land on Earth.
- Russia borders 14 different countries.
- Major cities:
  - ◇ Moscow
  - ◇ St Petersburg
  - ◇ Novosibirsk
  - ◇ Yekaterinburg
  - ◇ Nizhny Novgorod
  - ◇ Omsk
  - ◇ Samara
  - ◇ Kazan
  - ◇ Chelyabinsk
  - ◇ Rostov-on-Don
- Part of Russia is in Europe, part in Asia
- The landscape in Russia varies a lot: polar conditions, warm southern beaches, large grasslands and mountains and forests.
- Russia has about 100,000 rivers
- Europe's largest lakes, Ladoga and Onega, are in Russia