



Below are suggestions for additional activities on the National Geographic Giant Traveling Map of South America. Improve as needed to make appropriate for grade level.

Rules:



Shoes are not allowed on the map. Please have students remove shoes before walking on the map.



No writing utensils on the map.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Trunk Resources

Use the props and other resources found in the map trunk to supplement your giant map experience and classroom studies. Many of the resources in the trunk can enhance the activities and help you adapt them to various grade levels.

Exhibiting Photos

This Giant Traveling Map has over eighty photos that support the accompanying activities. The animals photo cards, physical feature photo cards, and cultural photo cards each tell a compelling story of the continent. Use these photos as exhibits by displaying them at open houses or other events.

Geo-Gym!

Collaborate with a Physical Education teacher to create fun games on the map that combine exercise with geography! Use Nerf balls, hoops, cones, and other equipment to invent your own games! Remember: No shoes on the map, and running on the map is not permitted.

Music

Invite a music teacher or local musician to lead an activity on the map using the sounds and instruments of South America. Identify geographic regions known for particular musical genres, drawing from indigenous musical traditions, samba, huayno, cumbia, bossa nova, and Afro-Peruvian. Go to www.nationalgeographic.com/worldmusic for sample music from South America.

How Big is South America?

For some math and geography fun, challenge students to outline the United States inside South America using plastic chains so they can visualize how large the continent is in relation to the United States. This is best in a small group. Alternatively, if you want to quickly demonstrate it, direct four students to stand in these locations, each representing a corner of the U.S.:

- Maine: 5° S Latitude, 35° W Longitude (next to Natal, Brazil)
- Florida: 30° S Latitude, 45° W Longitude (off coast of Brazil, next to Porto Alegre)
- San Diego: On Tropic of Capricorn at 75°W Longitude (off coast of Chile, next to Antofagasta)
- Washington State: 5° S Latitude, 80° W Longitude (next to Sullano, Peru)

Team Quiz

Quiz students to test geographic knowledge about South America from previous studies in the classroom. Distribute handouts to students one day in advance with readings that cover facts about South America. Create multiple-choice quiz questions based on the readings in which the answers are all countries of South America (or focus on one aspect, e.g. mountains, rivers, languages). Divide the class into four teams, each at a Base Camp, and give each player a cone of his or her color. Students line up behind their circle. One player per team stands in the colored circle. Play proceeds clockwise so that each team gets a question in turn. Pose quiz questions to players and ask them to place a cone on the country that best answers each question. If the player answers correctly the cone remains in play. If he answers incorrectly he must return with his cone to the end of his team's line. The first team to place all of their cones is the winner.

