



# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **6th Grade** | Unit 6

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# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 606

## Other South American Countries

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# Other South American Countries

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## Introduction

The seven southern countries of South America to be studied in this LIFE PAC® differ in many ways from the countries in the north. Only one, Ecuador, is crossed by the equator. All seven southern countries touch the jungles of the inland. Most of them spread out into colder, harsher climates. The Andes Mountains become higher as they range southward along the western coast of South America.

They descend sharply into the ocean at the extreme southern tip of the continent. These southern countries also share some events of history. All have had stormy periods since they became democracies, and most have military presidents. In 1980, however, Peru elected a civilian president. Other countries, like Argentina, are trying to change, but the task is difficult.

## Objectives

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFE PAC. When you have finished this LIFE PAC, you should be able to:

1. Describe the geography of each of the seven countries in this LIFE PAC.
2. Give an account of the background and the lifestyle of the people living in each country.
3. Relate how each country was started and how it has grown to the present.
4. Name the capital of each country and at least one more city.
5. Name the principal resource or resources of each country and the major industries that have grown from these resources.



# 1. ECUADOR, PERU, AND BOLIVIA

Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia share enough similarities in geography, history, and people to be one large country. All three were a part of one nation devoted to the Sun God during the pre-historic days of the Inca civilization. Over the

years they have become divided into the countries that exist today. The people of each country are proud of their own heritage. You will study ways Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia are alike. Then you will study each country separately.

## Section objectives

**Review these objectives.** When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Describe the geography of Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia.
2. Give an account of the background and the lifestyle of the people living in each country.
3. Relate how each country was started and how it has grown to the present.
4. Name the capital of each country and at least one other major city.
5. Name the principal resource or resources of each country and the major industries that have grown from these resources.

## Vocabulary

**Study these words to enhance your success in this section.**

**abound** (u bound'). Plentiful.

**blight** (blīt). A disease of plants.

**captor** (kap' tur). A person who takes or holds a prisoner.

**complex** (kum pleks'). A group of buildings, units, and so forth.

**conquest** (kon' kwest). An act of conquering; the thing, person, or land conquered.

**despot** (des' put). Ruler having unlimited power; tyrant.

**docile** (dos' ul). Easily managed; obedient.

**erupt** (i rupt'). Burst forth suddenly.

**oppress** (ō pres'). Govern harshly; keep down unjustly.

**originate** (u rij' u nāt). Cause to be, invent, come into being, or arise.

**retain** (ri tāt'). Continue to have or hold; keep.

**species** (spē' shēz). A group of animals or plants having the same characteristics.

**staple** (stā' pul). Most important basic food; principal article grown or manufactured in a place.

**viceroys** (vīs' roi). A person ruling a country under directions from the king or sovereign.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fā; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

## GEOGRAPHY

In this section you will study the Andes Mountains. You will also study the general regional traits, waterways, and wildlife of the countries of the Andes region.

**Mountains.** The Andes Mountains ( or *Sierras* as the South Americans call them) spread down from the north into Ecuador. In Ecuador the mountains are divided into two high ranges. One long line of ranges is called “The Avenue of Volcanoes.” Several peaks **erupt** lava from time to time. Mount Cotopaxi is the highest “steaming” mountain in the world. Whenever volcanoes are active, we know the earth in that place has not yet settled permanently. Earthquakes often occur in such areas, as they do in Ecuador.

The Andes go on down through Peru. In Peru they are higher. Mount Hauscarán, at 22,202 feet, is one of the tallest peaks in the world. Between the mountain ranges, the plateaus are elevated also.

The mountains and plateaus of the Andes in the west-southwest border of Bolivia are very high and have extended to their widest point. In Bolivia the Andes Mountains are nearly four



| Alpacas in South America

hundred miles wide in places. Three ranges, or *cordilleras*, have formed: the Cordillera Occidental (west), the Cordillera Central, and the Cordillera Oriental (east). At the northern end of the Cordillera Central is the Cordillera Real (royal). These ranges are full of glaciers, and their peaks reach extreme heights. The plateaus between the mountain ranges are also extremely high. The plateaus in Bolivia and Peru are called *altiplanos* (high plains). People who live and work on these *altiplanos* develop large chests and lungs. Lungs enlarge in order to absorb the small amount of oxygen available in the high altitudes.



**Complete the statements by writing the correct words in the blanks.**

- 1.1 The Andes mountains divide into \_\_\_\_\_ high ranges in Ecuador.
- 1.2 Mount Cotopaxi is called the highest \_\_\_\_\_ mountain in the world.
- 1.3 Areas that have volcanoes usually have \_\_\_\_\_ as well.
- 1.4 In Bolivia the Andes Mountains are nearly \_\_\_\_\_ miles wide in places.
- 1.5 In Bolivia the Andes Mountains have formed \_\_\_\_\_ ranges.
- 1.6 The plateaus in Bolivia and Peru are called \_\_\_\_\_ because they are so high.
- 1.7 People who live and work in the Andes develop \_\_\_\_\_ chests and lungs.



**Eastern regions.** The Spanish word for east is *oriente*. *Oriente* is the name the western countries of South America give to the low jungle areas that flatten out from the foot of the east side of the Andes. *Selva* is another name for this area. Low bushes and vines grow thickly in the *selva*. The weather is mostly hot and humid. In Ecuador the jungle is fairly wide, but in Peru the jungle is the size of Texas. Bolivia's lowlands take up almost three-fourths of the country. However, to the southeast, the jungle terrain begins to develop into the *Gran Chaco* (large swamp) that extends into Paraguay and even to Argentina.

Bolivia has two eastern regions. The first, part of the Gran Chaco just mentioned, is the Oriente-Chaco. The second is the *Yungas*, located on the hillsides of the mountains between the jungle and the high peaks. These eastern slopes are green and fertile, good for farming.

**Western regions.** Only Ecuador and Peru have western, or coastal, regions located between the Andes and the Pacific Ocean. Bolivia has no seacoast. The mountains form its western border.

Ecuador's coastline, especially in the south, is full of fertile valleys suitable for growing bananas and cocoa.

Peru's coastal region is a desert. Even the Andes mountains facing the ocean in Peru are barren. Two factors contribute to this condition. One factor is the mountains, which are so high in Peru that the warm, damp winds of the inland jungles cannot reach the coastline. The second factor is the Peru Current.

The Peru (or Humboldt) Current in the Pacific Ocean makes a huge circle. Starting far out in the ocean, it sweeps up the South American west coast beginning at the level of north Chile. It continues up the length of Peru. It then turns out into the Pacific again at the southern border of Ecuador. Above the Current are Ecuador's fertile valleys. Peru's coast, along the Current's path, is dry, having no rain, only occasional mists. The climate is right for desert plants, such as cotton, to be grown on Peru's coastal plain. The cold air of the Current, however, makes the weather surprisingly cool.



**Write *eastern* or *western* in the blank in front of each statement.**

- 1.8 \_\_\_\_\_ The Spanish word for it is *oriente*.
- 1.9 \_\_\_\_\_ These are coastal regions located between the Andes mountains and the Pacific Ocean.
- 1.10 \_\_\_\_\_ Fertile valleys in Ecuador suitable for growing bananas and cocoa.
- 1.11 \_\_\_\_\_ Peru's coastal region is a desert.
- 1.12 \_\_\_\_\_ Selva is a name for the low jungle areas at the foot of the Andes.
- 1.13 \_\_\_\_\_ The weather is mostly hot and humid.
- 1.14 \_\_\_\_\_ Peru's coast, along which the Peru Currents flows, has no rain, only occasional mist, but it is cool.
- 1.15 \_\_\_\_\_ Another name for the Peru Current is the Humboldt Current.



**Galápagos Islands.** Off of Ecuador's coast, about six hundred miles westward across the Pacific Ocean, lie the Galápagos Islands. These islands are owned by the country of Ecuador. Full of rocks and natural springs, they contain so many **species** of wildlife that scientists go there to study.

**Rivers and other waterways.** The Guayas River of Ecuador is wide at its mouth as it empties into the Pacific. Ocean-going ships can travel up the Guayas fifty miles to the city of Guayaquil. From there smaller boats can navigate on other rivers forty to eighty miles further inland. To the north of Ecuador, the Esmeraldas River can be navigated two hundred miles inland. On the east side of Ecuador's mountains, countless rivers are formed that eventually meet the Amazon River.

In Peru's Oriente, the Amazon's headwaters begin near the city of Iquitos. The water is so deep and so wide that ocean-going ships can come up the Amazon thirty-five hundred miles to the city, making it an "Atlantic Ocean seaport" for Peru. This fact is worth noting because Iquitos actually is only two hundred miles from the Pacific Ocean.

Lake Titicaca lies on an altiplano between Bolivia and Peru. Lake Titicaca is the highest navigable lake in the world. Being navigable makes it an important means of transportation and commerce for both countries.

**Wildlife.** Wildlife **abounds** everywhere in all three countries. In the Oriente, huge snakes, pumas, tapirs, and beautiful birds can be found. The ocean is full of tuna, shrimp, lobster,

and crayfish. Fishermen enjoy catching twenty to thirty-pound trout in the lakes and rivers. Trout weighing one hundred twenty pounds have been reported in Lake Titicaca. On the Galápagos Islands, besides wild horses, wild dogs, and wild cattle left over from the days of the conquerors, there live animals such as giant tortoises, iguanas, albatrosses, cormorants, and pelicans. The finches that dwell in Galápagos have been the subject of many scientific writings. In the high Andes are condors and falcons.

The llama and its three cousins, the vicuña, the guanaco, and the alpaca, are symbols of Peru. These animals exist in other South American countries, but Peru makes the most use of them. They are related to the camel. The vicuña has very fine wool, but the animals hide in the mountains and are hard to find, so the supply of vicuña wool is scarce. Alpaca wool is in much demand all over the world for sweaters.

The llama is Peru's beast of burden. Many families own one or more, making spoiled pets of some of them. Being small, the llama cannot carry as heavy a load as a horse can. The llama is a **docile** animal, however, that can store water within itself for a long period of time. This trait makes it useful for work in the desert areas or wherever water is scarce. Llamas are used for food, too. The meat is sometimes stretched and dried in the sun. The Indians have always called this *charqui* (char key). *Jerky* that the pioneers in the United States made from beef was named after the South American *charqui*. Llama wool is heavy, suitable for thick blankets and coats.



Classify the words under the proper heading.

**Words**

albatrosses  
lobsters  
tuna  
finches  
snakes

llamas  
tortoises  
falcons  
shrimp  
wild horses

tapirs  
crayfish  
pumas  
wild dogs

condors  
pelicans  
wild cattle  
iguanas

**1.16**

**Oriente**

**Andes**

**Seacoast**

**Galápagos**

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**Find the antonyms for these words in the paragraphs on wildlife**

- 1.17** a. plentiful \_\_\_\_\_  
c. midget \_\_\_\_\_  
e. least \_\_\_\_\_  
g. light \_\_\_\_\_  
i. unruly \_\_\_\_\_

- b. empty \_\_\_\_\_  
d. die \_\_\_\_\_  
f. coarse \_\_\_\_\_  
h. thin \_\_\_\_\_

**Write true or false in the blank in front of each statement.**

- 1.18 \_\_\_\_\_ The Rocky Mountain range runs through Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia.
- 1.19 \_\_\_\_\_ All three of these countries touch the interior jungles.
- 1.20 \_\_\_\_\_ Peru has an “Atlantic seaport.”
- 1.21 \_\_\_\_\_ The llama is related to the camel.
- 1.22 \_\_\_\_\_ The Andes Mountains are narrow in Bolivia.
- 1.23 \_\_\_\_\_ The llama family of animals are never raised for pets.
- 1.24 \_\_\_\_\_ The coastline of Peru is green with forests.
- 1.25 \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Titicaca produces no trout.

**Complete the following map activity.**

- 1.26 On the work map in the back of your LIFE PAC, mark these areas: the Andes Mountain ranges, the Galápagos Islands, the jungle areas, and the coastal area. You may wish to color these with crayon or colored pencil.
- 1.27 Indicate the approximate course of the Peru Current in the Pacific Ocean, and mark the Guayas River and the Esmeraldas River in Ecuador.
- 1.28 Mark the city of Iquitos in Peru and the Amazon River.
- 1.29 Draw in Lake Titicaca between Peru and Bolivia. You will need to look at the sample map in your LIFE PAC, a wall map, or online to be able to do this activity well.

**TEACHER CHECK**

\_\_\_\_\_ initials

\_\_\_\_\_ date

# SELF TEST 1

Write true or false (each answer, 1 point).

- 1.01 \_\_\_\_\_ It has been easy for all the countries we have studied in this LIFE PAC to become democracies.
- 1.02 \_\_\_\_\_ Bolivia is crossed by the equator.
- 1.03 \_\_\_\_\_ The Galápagos Islands are right off the shore of Ecuador.
- 1.04 \_\_\_\_\_ The Atlantic seaport on the Amazon, called Iquitos, is in Peru.
- 1.05 \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Titicaca is too small for ships.
- 1.06 \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Titicaca is on the border between Peru and Bolivia.
- 1.07 \_\_\_\_\_ The coastline of Ecuador is fertile.
- 1.08 \_\_\_\_\_ The “Avenue of Volcanoes” is in Ecuador.
- 1.09 \_\_\_\_\_ All the volcanoes are now inactive.
- 1.010 \_\_\_\_\_ Peruvians use the horse to carry things.
- 1.011 \_\_\_\_\_ The coastline of Peru has a very dry, cool climate.
- 1.012 \_\_\_\_\_ The coastline of Bolivia is mountainous.
- 1.013 \_\_\_\_\_ Charqui is the same as jerky.
- 1.014 \_\_\_\_\_ The Andes mountain range reaches its widest point in Peru.
- 1.015 \_\_\_\_\_ The *altiplanos* are in Bolivia and Peru.
- 1.016 \_\_\_\_\_ The llama is a cousin to the giraffe.
- 1.017 \_\_\_\_\_ Colombia lies to the north of Ecuador.
- 1.018 \_\_\_\_\_ Texas in the United States lies directly north of Peru.
- 1.019 \_\_\_\_\_ Cuzco is the port city for Lima, Peru.
- 1.020 \_\_\_\_\_ Mount Cotopaxi is called the highest “steaming” mountain in the world.

Write the letter for the correct answer on the line (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.021 Most of the people in Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia are \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 a. Americans                      b. Europeans                      c. Indians                      d. mulattos
- 1.022 The men of the Colorado Indian tribe \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 a. dye their hair red                      b. are headhunters  
 c. wear bright ponchos                      d. eat raw fish

- 1.023** The Auca Indians of the jungle \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. are friendly  
b. raise sheep  
c. blow darts of poison  
d. killed five missionaries
- 1.024** The Indians who make fine woven textiles are \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. the Capaya  
b. the Jivaro  
c. the Otavalo  
d. the Auca
- 1.025** Many children do not attend school because \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. they haven't money for clothes  
b. they do not want to  
c. they do not have to  
d. parents do not want schools.
- 1.026** Wool in Peru comes from \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. llamas  
b. jungle plants  
c. jaguars  
d. nutrias
- 1.027** Along the coastline of Peru there is much \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. sand skiing  
b. baseball  
c. mountain climbing  
d. pole-vaulting
- 1.028** Potatoes originally came from \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. Peru  
b. Ireland  
c. United States  
d. China
- 1.029** The women of Cuenca still make Panama hats because \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. they are in style  
b. somebody will buy them someday  
c. the government says so  
d. their husbands say so
- 1.030** Tapioca comes from the \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. manioc plant  
b. potato plant  
c. squash plant  
d. cornstalks
- 1.031** The name of the Indians who are descended from the Incas is \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. Urus  
b. Colorados  
c. Quechuas  
d. Aymaras
- 1.032** The women of Bolivia often carry \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. crochet work  
b. spindles  
c. embroidery  
d. mending
- 1.033** In Bolivia men wear *chullos*, which are \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. caps with flaps  
b. beanies  
c. knitted socks  
d. belts
- 1.034** A woman wears more skirts in Bolivia to show she is \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. poorer  
b. nicer  
c. married  
d. wealthier
- 1.035** People in Bolivia make musical instruments out of \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. pots and pans  
b. tree bark  
c. reeds and bamboo  
d. combs
- 1.036** In Bolivia, because of few textbooks, the teacher reads to the class, and the children \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. record the lessons  
b. write down and memorize  
c. copy on the blackboard  
d. never take tests

**Match the words and phrases** (each answer, 2 points).

- |       |       |           |    |   |
|-------|-------|-----------|----|---|
| 1.037 | _____ | Lima      | a. | capital of Inca Empire                          |
| 1.038 | _____ | La Paz    | b. | legal capital of Bolivia                        |
| 1.039 | _____ | Quito     | c. | chief port of Ecuador                           |
| 1.040 | _____ | Cuzco     | d. | capital of Peru                                 |
| 1.041 | _____ | Sucre     | e. | where most of Bolivia's government is conducted |
| 1.042 | _____ | Guayaquil | f. | capital of Ecuador                              |

**Write the words in the blanks that will make the statements correct** (each answer, 3 points).

- 1.043 The Incas expected everybody to pay homage to the \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.044 Pizzaro captured the \_\_\_\_\_ nation.
- 1.045 The Spanish wanted riches to be sent to \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.046 Some presidents of the Indian countries were democratic, but others became cruel \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.047 Ecuador's chief export product is \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.048 Incas had not yet learned about the \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.049 Incas built their buildings of large \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.050 Incas put \_\_\_\_\_ plating on their buildings.
- 1.051 The liberator of the southern half of South America was \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.052 Peru is the world's second largest producer of \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.053 The general who fought more battles to free Ecuador and Bolivia than Bolívar was \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.054 The most important metal now being taken from Cerro Rico and other mountains in Bolivia is \_\_\_\_\_ .

|   |                    |   |
|---|--------------------|---|
|  | <b>SCORE</b> _____ | <b>TEACHER</b> _____<br><small>initials                      date</small> |
|---|--------------------|---|



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