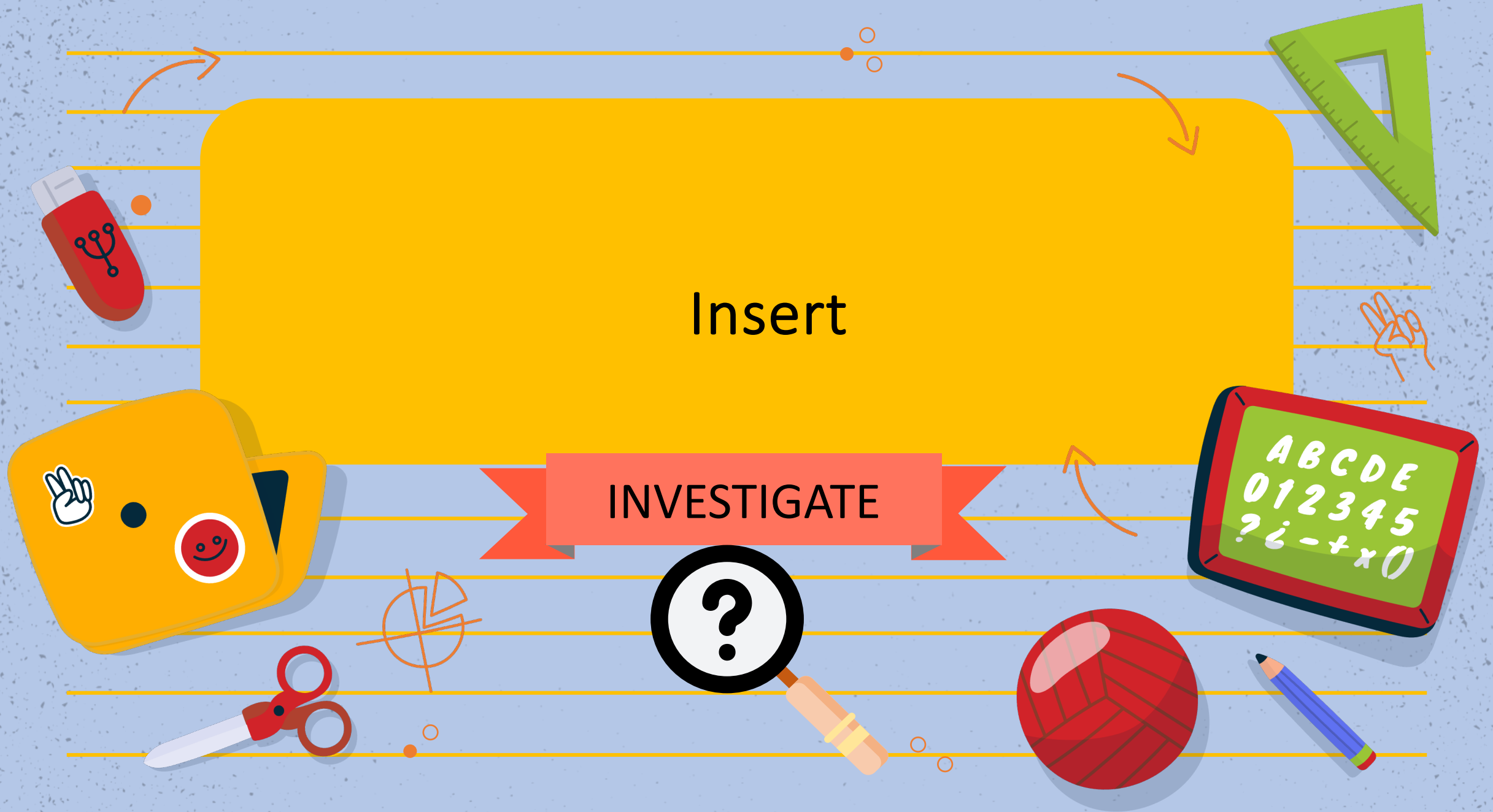


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INVESTIGATE



3.4

Physical Geography of Central America & The Caribbean



As a Young Geographer, I will be able to...

- **Analyze the landforms of the region**
- **Describe the climate of the region**
- **Make predictions on the areas economic values**

Landform Belts

Much of Central America is hilly or mountainous, with some swamps & lowlands near the coasts

The Pacific Lowlands extend from Guatemala to Panama

The Caribbean Lowlands extend from Nicaragua & Honduras

The Central Highlands include most of the mountainous regions in the area, extending from the Sierra Madre of Mexico.

Volcanoes & Islands

The region will experience earthquakes & volcanic eruptions. The volcanic soil making the region rich for agriculture

Isthmus- a narrow strip of land connecting two larger land areas, Panama connects North & South America

Archipelago- Group or chain of islands.

The Greater & Lesser Antilles are archipelagos in the Caribbean sea created by moving tectonic plates



Water Systems

Water is vital in Central America & the region needs it for transportation, drinking water, drainage, irrigation, & hydroelectric power

Lake Nicaragua is Central America's largest lake, containing ocean animals such as sharks

The [Panama Canal](#) connects the Atlantic & Pacific oceans to create faster trade

Coral reefs are located in the Caribbean Sea & the region has a variety of important sea creatures & fishing trade

Climate, Biomes, & Resources

Climates are dependent on factors such as proximity to the sea, elevation, latitude, & local topography

**The region is important for hotspots for biodiversity-
biological diversity in an environment as
indicated by number of different species of
plants & animals**

**A Tropical/Wet climate is typical of the region
allowing for rain forests or grasslands**

**Elevation across the region split into hot land,
temperate land, cold land, & frozen land
areas**



Find Me Five!

**What are 5 Things you
learned about today?**

Could be from a picture, information, or just
a fun fact!

RADICAL!

