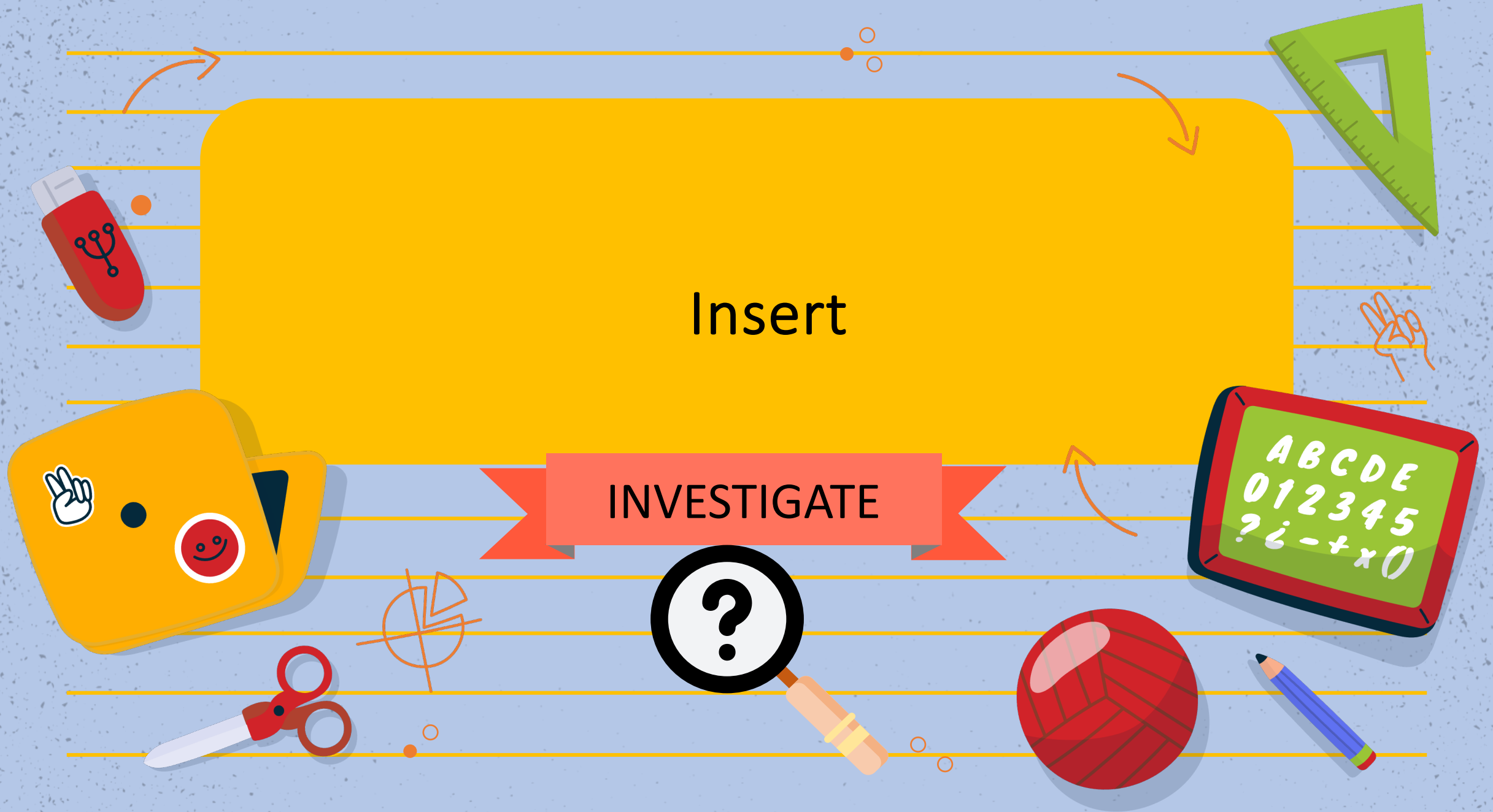


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INVESTIGATE



3.8

Human Geography of South America



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

History & Government

South America's population is diverse & a blending of cultures, but some remote & isolated groups live as their Indigenous ancestors did

The Moche, Mapuche, & Aymara were some of the first indigenous groups in the region, focused mostly on agriculture

The Inca established a civilization empire that stretched from Ecuador to central- Chile

The Incas created a large network of roads through the mountains & cut terraces into the slopes for farming

Knowledges was passed down via storytelling & by using **quipus- A knotted cord of various lengths & colors used by the Inca to keep financial record**

Conquest

The Incas used silver & gold as important resources, which attracted conquistadors to the region

Ironically, conquistadors were able to use the Incas roads to quickly move through the empire & take control

The Portuguese eventually settled the coast of Brazil, & the British, French, & Dutch settled the northern region

Just like Central America & The Caribbean, enslaved people were brought in to work the land



Independence & Movements for Change

Beginning in the 1800s, independence movements began in the region, inspired by the French & American Revolutions

Simon Bolivar led a revolution in Venezuela & Jose de San Martin did so in Argentina

Caudillos, unfortunately, were common after revolutions & politics were unstable in the region for years

Today, there is still political corruption, wide gaps between the rich & poor, & the indigenous still fight for their rights

Population Patterns

South America is the world's 4th-largest continent, home to 12 countries & 415 million people

Most people live on the coasts or near rivers due to favorable climates, transportation, & fertile lands

Birthrates are falling, but education levels are increasing

Population density is low due to the size of the region, but economic structures are concentrated in major cities



Brain Drain

Highly urbanized centers have few job opportunities or housing for migrants

Brain Drain- The loss of highly educated & skilled workers to other countries

Many of the educated are moving to North America & Europe for a better life



Society & Culture Today

Indigenous groups inhabit the subregion of South America, such as the Ecuadorian Andes, Peru, & Bolivia

Argentina's population is 97% European mix of Spanish & Italian immigrants

Chile's food, architecture, & traditions inspired by Germany

There are large Asian groups in the region as well, most people in South America are bilingual



Religion & Education

Most people follow the Roman Catholic faith. Rio holds the festival of Carnival before Lent

Other religions included Protestant Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Shinto, Islam, & Judaism

Education is present in the region & most public universities are low cost or free, however many children leave school to help support families

Uneven Development- Condition in which some places do not benefit as much as others from social & economic advancement

Family & Art

Urban & middle class families are a nuclear family of just a father, mother, & children

Compadre- Parents & godparents share in the upbringing of a child

Women have seen great strides in excelling in the workplace

Traditional arts such as weaving, ceramics, & metal working has been passed down through generations & people



Economic Activities

Several countries have combined governments & the use of natural resources to build wealth

**Brazil has seen strong development since the 1970s &
Chile has free-trade agreements with the U.S. &
other nations**

**Agriculture, ranching, & fishing take up about 20% of
the regions workfoce**

**Coffee & Cocoa are among some of the biggest cash
crops of the region**

Economic Implementation

**Manufacturing has grown exponentially over the years
& the development of highways has expanded
trade**

**Some countries have struggled to industrialize as
quickly as Brazil, Chile, & Argentina have**

**Some countries have been able to pay off foreign
debt to other nations**

**This has caused a growth & improvement of living
standards for people**



Tourism Advantages

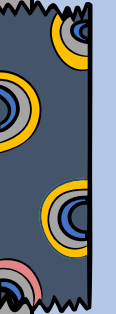
**Tourists spend money on souvenirs,
trips & restaurants**

**-New hotels and businesses have been
built in Mexico & the Caribbean.**

-Regional ports serve cruise ships

**-Residents work in restaurants &
resorts, guide tours & activities**

Tourism helps reduce income gap between rich and poor.



Tourism Disadvantages

Resorts built in unspoiled settings create congestion & pollution

Gap between rich tourists & poor residents creates resentment

Local governments run up debt to build tourist facilities

-airports, harbors, hotels, resorts, sewage systems, & shopping malls

Facility owners often live out of country, so profits leave the area

-such owners make decisions that may not be in area's best interest

Find Me Five!

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

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

RADICAL!

