

Southern Stories Answer Key

1. It has thousands of plant and animal species that cannot be found anywhere else.
2. Chile, Peru, and Colombia.
3. Areas near the Andes are cooler while areas closer to the equator are warm and humid.
4. A mix of Indigenous, African, and European influences.
5. Answers will vary but should mention its diverse environments, cultures, climates, or landscapes.

Teacher's Guide

- Use the passage as a quick introduction or review of major South American geographical and cultural features.
- Encourage students to reread the text to locate specific evidence for each answer.
- Allow students to share answers orally before writing to build confidence.

Differentiation Tips

- For younger students grades 3 to 5 provide sentence starters or highlight key words in the passage.
- For older students grades 6 to 12 require complete explanations using evidence from the text.
- Offer vocabulary support for terms such as rainforest, equator, Indigenous, and region.

Engagement Ideas

- Ask students to compare South America to a continent they already know well.
- Let pairs or small groups act out a short skit showing a cultural tradition or landscape described in the passage.
- Encourage students to bring in or research one interesting fact not included in the passage.