

# Year 4

## North America



### Key Vocabulary

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### Skills covered this half term:

- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries, states and geographically significant land features (including Niagara Falls and the Grand Canyon).
- To use a map scale to understand the significance of the size of Britain compared to the size of the USA.
- To identify flags of countries in North America using an atlas.
- To locate the Panama Canal on a map and identify its significance to trade to the rest of the world.

### Key Vocabulary

State	An organised political community.
Territory	an organised division of a country that is not yet admitted to the full rights of a state.
Capital city	A capital city (or capital town or just capital) is a city or town, specified by law or constitution, by the government of a country, or part of a country, such as a state, province or county. It usually serves as the location of the government's central meeting place and offices.
Time zone	A time zone is an area that observes a uniform standard time for legal, commercial and social purposes.
Biome	Biomes are areas of our planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants.
Indigenous	Originating or occurring naturally in a particular place – native.

The continent of North America is made up of 23 countries. It is split into two groups: the mainland countries and the islands off the coast. the largest countries in North America are the USA and Canada.

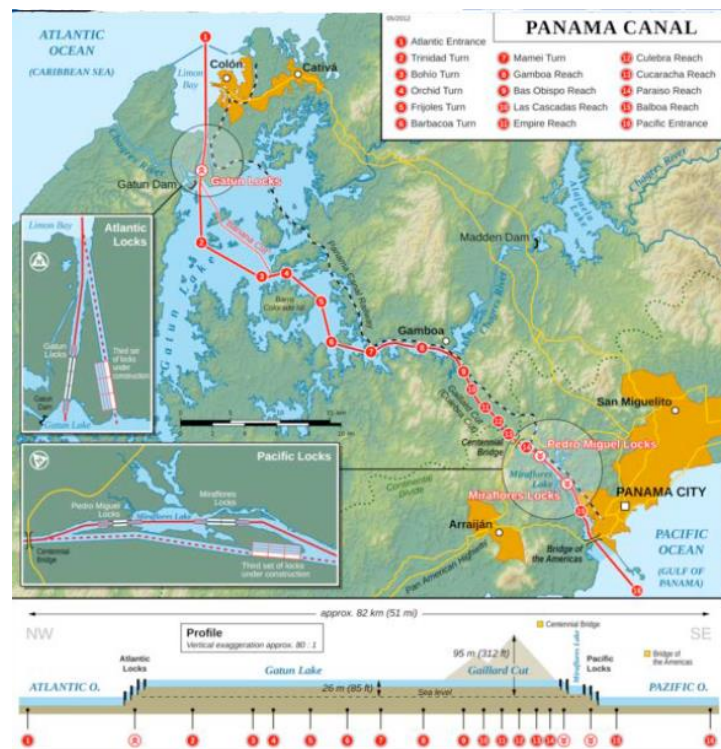
The USA is divided into 50 states. Canada is divided into 10 provinces and 3 territories.

The countries below Mexico are known as Central America but are classified as being located in the continent of North America.

Most of the islands off the coast of North America are known as the Caribbean Islands.

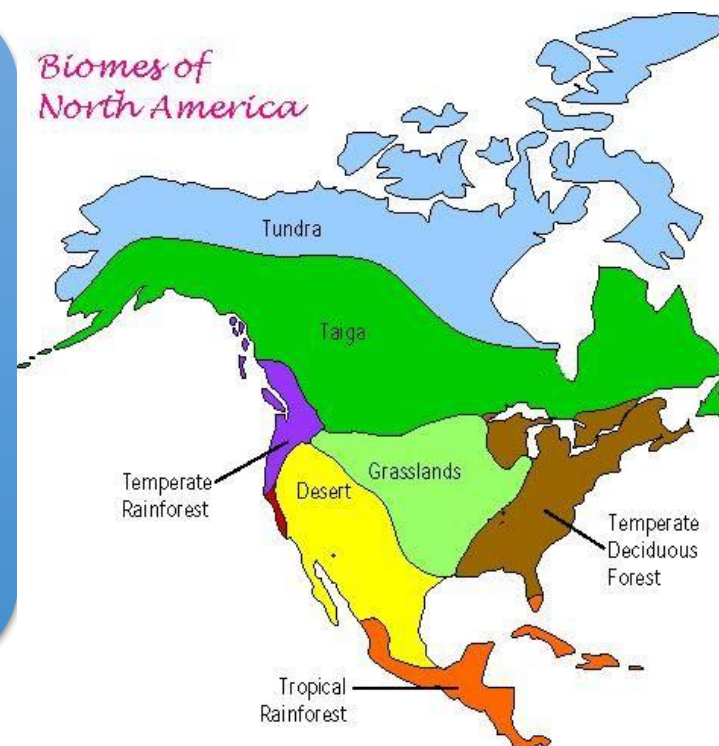


Before the Europeans arrived, the indigenous and native Americans lived in the continent. Today, only about 2% of US Americans consider themselves as descendants from native Americans.



The Panama Canal is a shipping canal that is used to allow cargo ships to cut through Panama instead of having to go around the tip of South America to cross from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It took more than 30 years to build and was officially opened in 1914.

### Biomes of North America



Human and physical features.  
The landscape of America varies so much due to its incredible size.

