Social Studies Brunswick School Department Grade 6 **South America**

	 The physical geography of South America is very diverse.
Essential	 South America is a continent that contains many natural and
Understandings	cultural treasures.
_	 South American people have struggled for national independence
	and individual freedom.
	What are the main geographic regions of South America?
	Where do most Brazilians live?
Essential	What are the principle natural treasures?
Questions	Why is the Amazon rainforest so important to the world?
	What are the major aspects of South America's diverse cultures?
	 How has geography influenced the ways in which Latin Americans
	make a living?
	The different geographic regions of South America include:
	mountains, desert, highlands, and rainforest.
	 Most of Brazil's population lives in coastal cities.
	■ The Amazon rainforest provides about 1/3 of the world's oxygen; it
	is home to several million species of plants, animals and insects;
	and it holds about 1/5 of the world's fresh water.
Essential	 Threats to the rainforest include: smuggling, pollution caused by
Knowledge	mining, and too much timber being removed leaving an inadequate
	amount of trees to absorb the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
	 Carnival, a public festival celebrated just before Lent, is a unique
	tradition that includes parades, costumes and music.
	 Argentina's government was ruled in the 20th century by various
	dictators who controlled the people.
	 Bolivar wanted to liberate South America from Spain and unite it as
	"one gran colontia."
	 Venezuela's land is rich with oil. Many Venezuelans make a living
	in the oil industry.
	People:
	 Yano Mamo, Inca, Simon Bolivar, Charles Darwin, Jose de
	San Martin
	■ <u>Places</u> :
Vocabulary	o Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro, Andes Mountains, Atacama Desert,
	Patagonia, Galapagos, the 13 countries
	• Terms:
	o basin, diverse, ecosystem, canopy, deforestation,
	dictatorship, altiplano, photosynthesis, lent, coup, evolution,
	naturalist, archipelago, survival of the fittest

Social Studies

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Essential Skills	 Create physical and political maps of South America. Read primary source accounts about events in South America's history. Draw conclusions about how geography influences a country. Explain the importance of the rainforest in Brazil. Identify threats to the rainforest and their impact on the world. Predict in what ways changes in the world's price of oil could affect Venezuela. Identify the reasons why Brazilians live where they do.
Related Maine Learning Results	Social Studies History C. Historical Inquiry, Analysis and Interpretation 3. Use information from a variety of primary and secondary sources to identify and support a point of view on a controversial historical topic. Geography A. Skills and Tools 1. Visualize the globe and construct maps of the world and its sub-regions to identify patterns of human settlement, major physical features, and political divisions. 2. Develop maps, globes, charts, models, and databases to analyze geographical patterns on the earth. B. Human Interaction with Environments 2. Explain patterns of migration throughout the world. 4. Demonstrate an understanding of how society changes as a consequence of concentrated settlement. Economics D. International Trade and Global Interdependence 3. Explain why trade allows specialization and identify specific examples of how nations specialize.
Sample Lessons And Activities Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	 Read Prentice Hall: Chapter 6, Sections 1 and 4. South America Lessons: Plaza de Mayo Carnival Amazing Amazon A World Apart A Capital Idea Complete political and physical maps of South America. Examine population, climate, and vegetation maps of South America. Complete a virtual postcard. Complete Chapter 6 section 1 and 4 quizzes.

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	■ <u>Videos</u> :
	 Amazon: Land of flooded forest (National Geographic)
	 Peru's Hidden Rainforest
	 Amazing Destinations: Peru & Brazil
Sample	 Around South America
Resources	 Physical Geography of South America, National Geographic
	 Video Visits: Peru
	 <u>Video Visits Argentina</u>
	 <u>Video Visits Brazil</u>
	 Simon Bolivar
	 Caracas, Venezuela, Discovery Channel
Technology	http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/curriculum
Link	