

North America KS2 Knowledge Mat



Subject Specific Vocabulary

A buck	A nickname for the American dollar.
Cherokee	A member of an American indigenous people formerly inhabiting much of the southern US.
American state	The U.S. is a country of 50 states covering a vast swathe of North America.
national park	An area of countryside, or occasionally sea or fresh water, protected by the state for the enjoyment of the general public or the preservation of wildlife.
The 'big apple'	This is the nickname associated with New York City (NYC). The nickname became common from the 1920s.
coyotes	Coyotes were a purely North American animal that lived in the West. They are small wolf-like creatures.
Statue of Liberty	The Statue of Liberty is a colossal neoclassical sculpture on Liberty Island in New York Harbour in New York City.
Chichén Itzá	Chichén Itzá is a complex of Mayan ruins in Mexico. It is a massive step pyramid.
A cold shoulder	An American metaphor for deliberately ignoring someone.
lighten up	To relax and not to take things too seriously.

Sticky Knowledge about North America

- ☐ There are 23 countries in North America, with Canada being the biggest.
- ☐ Mexico City is the largest city with more than 9 million people living there.
- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Greenland is the not only the biggest island in North America but also in the world.
- ☐ The Missouri River is the longest in North America and flows through seven US states. Denali is the highest mountain in North America.
- ☐ Lake Superior, which borders Canada and the US, is the third largest lake in the world and the largest North American lake.

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