

# Adventurers - Picture Our Planet



## Brazil

"Picture Our Planet" is a thematic unit, with a key focus on geography. Learning is centred around three contrasting localities:- Brazil, Scotland and Fiji, and includes key facts, physical and human features, traditions and customs and an insight into how each country is tackling particular conservation issues. We will be looking at a range of sources and evidence and making comparisons.

## Facts and Figures

- Brazil is the 5th largest country in the world and is in South America.
- The capital city is Brasilia.
- It is home to the second longest river in the world, the Amazon.
- 180 languages are spoken in Brazil, the main one being Portuguese.
- The main religion is Roman Catholicism.
- Gold and diamonds are mined there and it is the largest producer of coffee in the world.
- Brazilians love football! They have won the World Cup five times.
- Every year there are huge Carnivals for Easter.
- Brazilian chocolate is famous all over the world.

## Famous Physical Feature

There are huge cities, amazon rainforests, dry grasslands, wetlands, hills, plateaus and coastal areas in Brazil, so the climate varies considerably.

### Sugar Loaf Mountain

So named because it looks like a tall cone with a circular top, the same shape as a traditional form of refined sugar used in the 19th century.



## Famous Human Feature

### Christ the Redeemer

This statue is named as one of the seven wonders of the modern world. It is 38m high and over 10,000 people visit it every day!

## Conservation Issue

### River Tiete

The River Tiete in São Paulo was so full of sewage and waste by the 1990s that it was classed as biologically dead. Waste from industries and sewage was being dumped in at a rate of approximately 134 tons per day. The government ordered a clean-up, but it is taking decades.

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## Scotland

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## Facts and Figures

- Scotland is one of the four countries in the United Kingdom, situated to the north of England.
- Scotland has over 700 islands.
- The capital city is Edinburgh.
- The main language is English.
- The main religion is Christianity.

## Features

Scotland has beautiful landscape and scenery, with many lochs (Scottish Gaelic word for a lake) and mountains.

Scotland has lots of castles and palaces. The largest horse sculptures in the world - "The Kelpies" - and Glenfinnan Viaduct are also famous landmarks.



## Customs

### Highland Games

The Highland Games happen in summer all over Scotland. Events include tossing the caber, hammer throw, Highland dance and piping.

### Clans and Tartans

People in the past living in the Highlands wore tartan, a thick, woven fabric, to represent where they came from (their clan). The colours were made from plants, roots and berries. King George IV brought tartan back after the British government banned it for 100 years.

### Hogmanay

Scottish New Year, when people clean their houses and go "first footing" to give gifts to their friends. The famous song 'Auld Lang Syne' is sung.

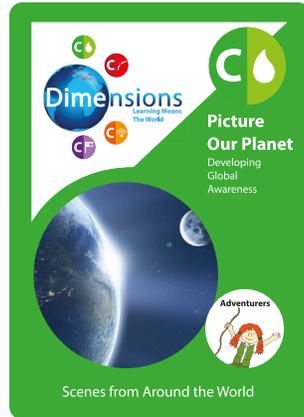
## Conservation Concerns

### Wildlife

One in eleven species of wildlife in Scotland are in danger of extinction. This includes puffins, red squirrels and eagles. This is due to human activities, such as fishing, housing and land developments and overgrazing.



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## Fiji

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## Facts and Figures

- Fiji is in the continent of Oceania.
- Fiji is located in the South Pacific Ocean.
- The main religion is Christianity, followed by Hinduism.
- The capital city is Suva.
- Fiji became an independent state in 1970, after gaining its sovereignty from the United Kingdom.
- Fiji grows millions of coconuts and exports a lot of sugar.

## Physical Features

Fiji is made up of a group of about 330 islands (archipelagos). About 100 of these islands are inhabited. The islands are made of volcanic rock. There are sandy beaches, flowers which are only found there, coral reefs, mangrove swamps and palm groves.



## Human Features

Levuka is the old colonial capital of Fiji, built at the time when Britain ruled the country.

## Customs

### Rugby

Rugby is Fiji's national game and a very important part of the culture. Fijians are among the best rugby players in the world and 10% of the total population play rugby.

### Weaving

dried Pandanus leaves are used for weaving baskets, mats, skirts and even boat sails.

## Conservation Issue

### Deforestation

Fiji has some 164 known species of amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles according to figures from the World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Of these, 28.7% are endemic, meaning they exist in no other country, and 15.2% are threatened. Deforestation is the primary cause of this.

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## Vocabulary

<b>Archipelago</b>	a large group of islands
<b>Biologically dead</b>	no life in it
<b>Colonial</b>	from a group of people who moved to a new place and took it over
<b>Coral Reef</b>	a colony of corals (sea creatures similar to sea anemones)
<b>Deforestation</b>	the permanent destruction of forests
<b>Inhabited</b>	lived in
<b>Loch</b>	Irish and Scottish word for lake
<b>Mangrove</b>	a shrub that grows in swamps
<b>Monolith</b>	a large single upright block of stone
<b>Plateau</b>	a large area of high land
<b>River Tiete</b>	a Brazilian river in the state of São Paulo
<b>Volcanic Rock</b>	a rock formed from lava erupted from a volcano

## Concept Flow

- To know some key facts about Brazil/Scotland/Fiji
- To know some of the physical features of Brazil/Scotland/Fiji
- To know some of the human features of Brazil/Scotland/Fiji
- To understand some of the traditions and customs of Brazil/Scotland/Fiji
- To understand how Brazil/Scotland/Fiji is tackling conservation



## My Notes / Questions