



Living in **BRAZIL**



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Words in bold are in the glossary on page 23.

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Cities

Brazil has many cities. Nearly all of them lie on or near the coast. I come from Rio de Janeiro on the southeast coast.

São Paulo

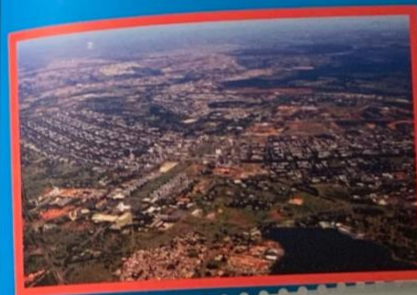
São Paulo is Brazil's largest city. With over ten million people, it's one of the world's biggest cities. People travel to the centre to work in offices, factories, shops and markets.

São Paulo's city centre is very crowded, with many tall buildings.



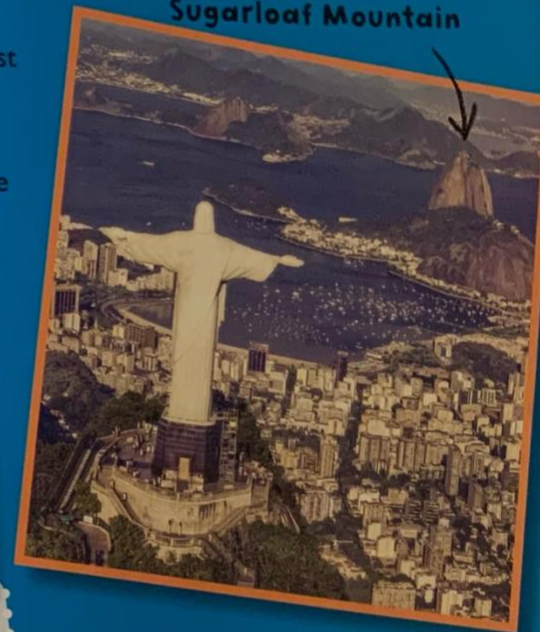
Rio

Rio de Janeiro is the second-largest city. We just call it Rio. Nearby is a tall, pointed mountain called Sugarloaf Mountain. A giant statue of Jesus Christ stands on top of another mountain, Corcovado.



Brasília was built in the shape of a plane or flying bird. You can see this shape from the air.

Sugarloaf Mountain



Brasília

Brasília is the capital of Brazil. Rio used to be the capital, but in the 1950s, the government decided the capital should be nearer the centre of our huge country. Brasília was built in just four years and opened in 1960. It has many unusual buildings, including a cathedral shaped like a spiky crown.

The cathedral of Brasília





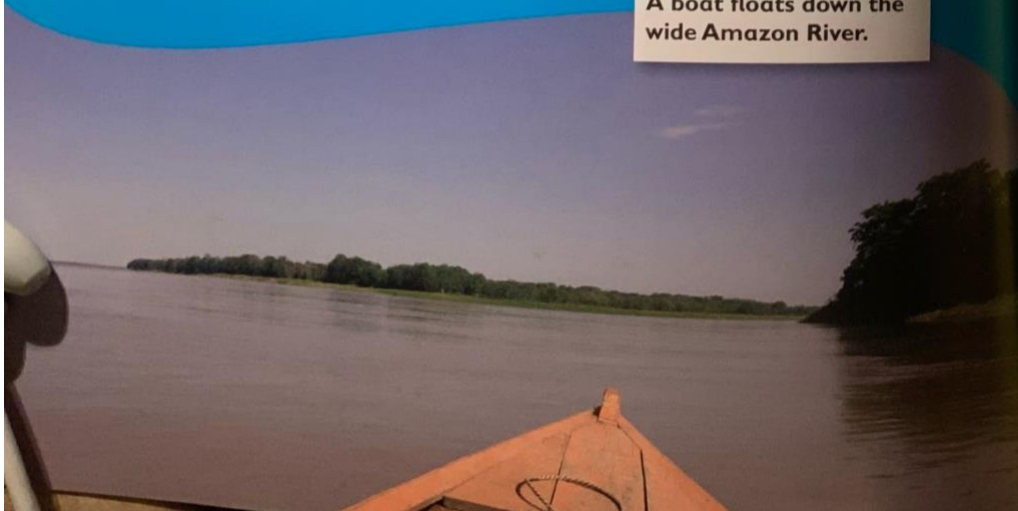
Scenery and wildlife

Brazil is a beautiful country with many different landscapes. Rainforests, wetlands, grassy plains and coasts all have their own wildlife.

Mighty river

The Amazon is the world's second-longest river. It flows right across Brazil to the Atlantic Ocean. The mouth of the river is very wide. The Amazon contains more water than any other river in the world.

A boat floats down the wide Amazon River.



A colourful toucan in the rainforest

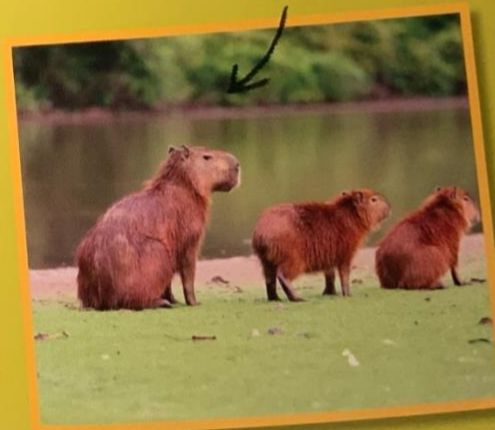


Rainforest

The river acts as a highway through the dense Amazon Rainforest. But parts of the forest are being cut down for timber or to make way for new villages, mines and farms.

The Amazon Rainforest has an amazing variety of wildlife. Scientists have counted 40,000 different plants and 1,300 types of bird.

capybaras



Wetland

The Pantanal is a huge wetland the size of France. During the rainy season it turns into a vast lake! There are crocodiles, sharp-toothed fish called piranhas, and capybaras, which are giant rodents.



Brazil: Fast facts

Capital: Brasília

Population: 208.8 million (2018)

Area: 8.5 million sq km

Official language: Portuguese

Currency: The real

Main religions: Roman Catholicism, Protestantism, Candomblé

Longest river: Amazon, 6,400 km

Highest mountain: Pico da Neblina, 2,995 m

National holidays: New Year's Day (1 January), Carnival (February or March), Good Friday and Easter Sunday, Tiradentes Day (21 April), Labour Day (1 May), Corpus Christi (May or June), Independence Day (7 September), Our Lady of Aparecida (12 October), All Souls' Day (2 November), Republic Day (15 November), Zumbi dos Palmares (20 November), Christmas Day (25 December)



Glossary



Amerindians the original people of Brazil

border a line marking the boundary between two countries

Candomblé a Brazilian religion that is based on African beliefs

capital city where the country's government meets

climate the regular weather pattern in a region

colony a territory ruled by another country

favela a Brazilian word for a slum

festival a celebration, usually for religious reasons

float a decorated vehicle that carries people in a parade

Lent the forty days before Easter

manioc a root crop that is also known as cassava

Middle East an area that covers southeast Asia and northwest Africa

mining digging out materials, such as coal or precious metals, from the ground

official language the main language of a country that is approved by the government

plain an area of low, flat land

plantation a large farm where crops, such as coffee, rubber or sugar cane are grown.

rodent a type of small mammal with large, sharp front teeth; mice, rats and hamsters are rodents

samba a Brazilian dance

sugar cane a tropical grass from which sugar is made

tropical belonging to the tropics, the area around the Equator



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looks at eight different countries across four of the world's continents, exploring what makes them all unique.

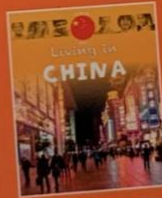
Welcome to Brazil!

In this book, children tell you all about what makes their country special, from its great capital city of Brasília to the landscape, people, food and things to see and do.

Also available:



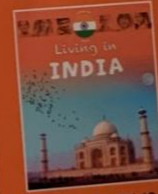
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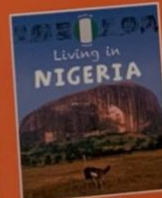
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