

For the REVIEW.]

**Geography.****INTRODUCTION TO STUDY OF SOUTH AMERICA.**

**NOTE.** The object of the teacher is to interest the pupils in the study of the continent by presenting the main geographical features. The class is supposed to have taken a few lessons on the earth as a whole and to have had special instruction on North America. Wall maps of the Hemispheres, a globe, and outline blackboard map of South America should be before the class. In the absence of wall maps use the textbooks. Show as many diagrams and pictures as possible.

**TEACHER.** Notice the map of the hemispheres and tell me where South America is situated.

**PUPIL.** South America is situated in the southern part of the Western Hemisphere.

**T.** What is its position in regard to North America?

**P.** It is southeast of North America and united to it by the Isthmus of Panama.

**T.** Well, Hilda.

**P.** How wide is the Isthmus of Panama?

**T.** The isthmus is only about thirty-five miles wide and a man could easily walk across it in a day. An attempt has been made to dig a ship canal through the Isthmus. Why is a canal needed?

**P.** Vessels going from the east of North America to points on the Pacific coast have now to go around Cape Horn. A canal would greatly shorten the distance.

**T.** What canal have we in our province?

**P.** St. Peter's canal in Cape Breton, connecting Bras D'or Lakes with St. Peter's Bay.

**T.** Let us notice the position of the continent more particularly. In what latitude is it?

**P.** It is principally in south latitude.

**T.** 12° N. - 55° S. would place it correctly. In what longitude is it?

**P.** West.

**T.** Yes, 35° - 81° west longitude. (Note latitude and longitude on blackboard.) I have here cardboard forms of North America and South America. Which is the larger continent?

**P.** North America is the larger continent.

**T.** South America is only about seven-eighths the size of North America. You may draw a square on the blackboard to represent the size of North America. Divide the square into eight equal parts. How many of the parts represent the size of South America?

**P.** Seven of the parts represent the size of South America.

**T.** This chart will give an idea of the relative size of the various continents. How does South America with the others?

**P.** It is smaller than Asia, Africa or North America, but larger than Europe or Australia.

**T.** You may open your book at the map of South America. Notice the scale and ascertain by measurement the greatest length and width of the continent.

**P.** South America is about 3,000 miles wide and about 4,800 miles long.

**T.** You may compare its length and width with the greatest length and width of North America.

**P.** North America is about 800 miles longer and 400 miles wider than South America.

**T.** Travelling at the rate of 48 miles a day, how long would it take you to travel the length of South America?

**P.** It would take one hundred days, or over three months.

**T.** When you learn more about this continent you will be able to judge whether you would enjoy a trip in this part of the world. You may represent the form of South America in straight lines. Harry may represent the same on the outline map.

**P.** I have made a triangle.

**T.** What did straight line boundaries of North America make?

**P.** They made a triangle too.

**T.** Yes, both continents have the same general outline, narrowing towards the south. The two lands also resemble each other in their surface forms. This we will notice in a future lesson. Are the coasts of South America regular or broken?

**P.** They are quite regular. The Atlantic coast is not as regular as the Pacific coast.

**T.** Which is the longer coast?

**P.** The Atlantic coast is the longer.

**T.** The entire length of coast-line, measuring all the indentations, is about 16,000 miles. I will write this number on the blackboard. What did you learn about the length of coast-line of North America?

**P.** We learned that it is longer than the entire distance around the earth, which is 25,000 miles. The coast-line of North America is 30,000. Is it not?

**T.** Yes, you are quite right. You may represent the coast-line of both continents by straight lines parallel to each other.

**P.** North America is nearly twice as long. I know why that is so. North America is the larger continent and has so many more indentations.

**T.** That is a thoughtful answer. Of what benefit is the length of coast-line?

**P.** It gives a country greater advantages for trade or commerce.

**T.** That is true the deeply indented continents have had much intercourse with each other. They are and have always been the abode of the most civilized nations. Notice which these are.

**P.** The northern continents, Europe, Asia and North America have many indentations.

**T.** Yes, the northern continents have well been styled "beautiful trees with abundant spreading branches."

**P.** And the southern one simply trunks!

**T.** Yes, the unindented continents, shut up within themselves, have been styled "trunks without branches."

**P.** Can we copy the diagrams?

**T.** Certainly, you may do so after the recitation. We will now take a quick journey along the coast and learn the names of the most important projections and indentations.

**P.** From what will we start?

**T.** From Cape Horn. We will have to imagine ourselves in some kind of a flying machine.

**P.** Oh yes, an electric flying machine!

**T.** Very well; this will insure our moving along very quickly. This cape, as you see, projects from an island of the same name. It is a huge black, naked rock, rising many hundred feet above the sea. (Show picture of cape.) If we were in a steamer it would be safer for us to go through the Strait of Magellan.