

Latin America

Learn About It

In this unit, your child will learn:

- the features that tie Latin American countries together
- how Mexico has changed
- the effect of European colonization on Central America and the Caribbean Islands
- the impact of geography on South America

Here are some ways that you can help your child learn:

Talk About It

Chapter 6: Latin America: Its Land and History

Language. Latin America is united by a common language. Discuss the language(s) your family knows. Together, think of words, such as the names of popular foods, that come from other languages.

Chapter 7: Mexico Today

History and architecture. The history and culture of the people who lived in Mexico long ago is evident in the buildings of Mexico City. Discuss historic buildings and monuments in your community.

Chapter 9: South America

Agricultural exports. Many South American nations grow fruits and other products for export. Ask your child to name some fruits and vegetables. Discuss which do or do not grow in your climate.

Make It

Hieroglyphs. The ancient Maya used a writing system based on symbols, called hieroglyphs. Working together, write a brief message. Ask your child to rewrite the message using hieroglyphs.

Read to Learn More About It

Amazon: A Young Reader's Look at the Last Frontier by Peter Lourie. This first-hand account of a journey through the Brazilian state of Rondônia, the heart of the Amazon, also describes the destructive burning of the jungle.

Everyday Life of the Aztecs, Incas and Mayans by Neil Morris. The civilization of each of these ancient cultures is described in detail.

Under the Royal Palms: A Childhood in Cuba by Alma Flor Ada. Children's author recalls growing up in Cuba.



Technology

Check out
www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss05/
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