This Is South America

Land and People
South America is the fourth-largest continent. It is made up of twelve countries and a French territory.

South America’s Geography
The Andes Mountains have volcanoes and glaciers. The Amazon River carries water from more than 1,000 tributaries. The Strait of Magellan connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Climate, Plants, and Animals
Regions with higher elevations have a cold climate. The center of the continent is rainy, with mild winters and warm summers. South America’s natural resources include metals, oil, and coal.

Find and underline a form of each vocabulary word.

**glacier** noun, a huge mass of slow-moving ice

**tributary** noun, a smaller river that flows into a larger one

**strait** noun, a narrow waterway that connects two big bodies of water

**elevation** noun, a measure of height above sea level

What body of water connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans at the south? Highlight the sentence that tells the answer.

What are some of South America’s natural resources? Circle the sentence that tells the answer.

SKILL Reading Maps
Which mountain range runs along the west coast of South America? Circle the label that tells the answer.