

WHERE IN THE AMERICAS IS MEXICO?

Watch The Americas. With your students, think about the biological diversity of Mexico and ecosystems highlighted in The Americas.

Subjects: Biology, Environmental Science, Geography (landforms, maps)

MATERIALS:

- <u>Mexico episode</u> or video snippets
- Access to digital <u>map</u>
- Student Page: What Do I Know About Mexico?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Find Mexico and identify key geographic features.
- Identify producers and consumers.
- Make observations about species and their adaptations.
- Explain how human activity impacts wildlife and habitat.



BEFORE WATCHING The Americas: Mexico

As a class or in groups have students explore and discuss the following questions with each other. Individuals or Groups can utilize maps, or online tools to help answer the questions below:

- Find where you live on a map. World Atlas/GIS Geography: https://gisgeography.com/north-america-map/
- Use a digital mapping tool to calculate the distance from where you live to one location in Mexico highlighted in *The Americas*.
- Have you ever visited Mexico? If yes, where did you go? What was your favorite experience?

AFTER WATCHING The Americas: Mexico

Ask students to answer the following questions on the Student Page or discuss as a class or in small groups.

ADAPTATIONS:

For younger students: Lead a nature hike around the school grounds. Help students learn to look for signs of wildlife. Make a list on the board as a class of all the unique insects, plants and animals you observed. **For older students:** Ask students to write a brief research paper about the population health and status of the monarch butterfly.



STUDENT PAGE: *The Americas: Mexico*

WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT MEXICO?

Choose a wildlife species or ecosystem featured in this episode that you would like to learn more
about and write 5 amazing facts
xplain the role of two featured species (plants or animals) in their food chain and how they fit into he broader food web. (Label producers and consumers)
Describe or draw the monarch butterfly's annual migration? What did you find most interesting about this species? What are the biggest threats to its survival?
Vhat is a cenote?