

The Amazing Amazon River

Flowing from the Andes Mountains, the Amazon River is the second longest river in the world, measuring in at 6,347 km. The river runs through Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia, Guyana, Peru and Bolivia in South America. During the wet season, the Amazon River grows and can reach over 190 kilometres in width, however there are no bridges that cross the river. The largest city along the Amazon is Manaus in Brazil. The city is home to around 1.7 million people.



Crossing the Amazon must be done by boat because there are no bridges.

Amazingly, there are 3,000 species of fish that live in the river with new species being discovered all the time. The Amazon River is also home to the piranha, which is a meat-eating fish!

1. Number the countries below from **1 to 7** to show the order that they are listed in the text. The first one has been done for you.



Brazil

Guyana

Bolivia

Peru

1 Ecuador

Colombia

Venezuela



2. How many species of fish live in the Amazon River? **Tick one.**

1.7 million

6,347

3,000

190



3. **Find and copy** two words the author uses to talk about the river's movement.



4. Would it be safe to swim in the Amazon River?
Explain your answer.

The Amazing Amazon River Answers

1. Number the countries below from **1 to 7** to show the order that they are listed in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Brazil | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | Guyana | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 | Bolivia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | Peru | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Ecuador | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | Colombia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Venezuela | | | | |

2. How many species of fish live in the Amazon River? **Tick one.**

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1.7 million | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6,347 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 190 |

3. Find and copy two words the author uses to talk about the river's movement.

- **flowing**
- **runs**

4. Would it be safe to swim in the Amazon River?

Accept any reasonable answer relating to information from the text:

- **No – because there are meat-eating fish in the river.**
- **No – because it flows fast and it might be dangerous.**
- **No – because it is very wide and it would be very difficult to cross.**