While exploring Cusco, the group could occasionally see that the weather was storming above the Andes Mountains. It would sprinkle on the valley only if the clouds were able to surpass the giant ridge.

The main square of Cusco was gorgeous with a central fountain. The architecture within the city was often built on top of Inca architecture with mud brick. The main square was a very busy part of the city and contained popular restaurants.

The view of Cusco was amazing. The light drizzle of rain created a beautiful rainbow over the city. The Andes Mountains were always clearly visible behind the valley.

Rock formations created by ancient glaciers were located at a nearby archaeological site outside of Cusco. Visitors would use these smooth slopes as slides, which would weather the rock even more. (I am sliding down from the very top!)
The Incas would often drill holes in their tightly fit walls for drainage systems. The architecture is still utilized for drainage today.

The Inca aqueducts would use the natural springs from the mountains to filter water through the different levels of terraces. The water is still flowing through these many levels today.

Machu Picchu was built at a very high elevation at the edge of the thick vegetation of the Andean Range. The Urubamba River cuts through the mountains and tends to be extremely active during the wet season.
Only the highest mountain peaks contain snow in Peru, since the weather is relatively warm year round. The short distance from the equator creates only a wet season and a dry season.

Up in the highest part of the mountains, depth was difficult to distinguish because of the cloud cover. Natural pools also formed in the highlands, which were used by the locals.

Natural springs emerged from within the mountain ranges. The watered terraces were built at very high altitudes and were still able to produce crops.

The Urubamba River tends to carry a lot of silt during the rainy season; hence the brownish color. This high density water is capable of lifting large boulders along the river.
The Inca aqueducts would extend for miles. The stones used in construction would need to be water tight and sealed perfectly to avoid leaking.

When visiting the textile workshop, the experts showed methods of dying alpaca and lama wool. Some colors would require boiling water, plants, and other natural ingredients like sulfur.

The water that flowed from the aqueducts in ancient times would be offered to the emperor first and then to the other Inca subjects in order of importance.

These salt mines were used to exhume different kinds of salt from the salt water. They were the same mines in use for many years.
Lima was a beautiful city influenced by many different cultures. This amazing fountain is located in the main square within the hub of Lima activity.

Many parks around Lima were even influenced by outside cultures. These mosaics are similar to Gaudi’s work from Spain.

The coast of Lima was very unusual. Instead of typical sand, the beach was covered with stones that have amazing acoustics when the water retreats into the ocean.