

Frozen Worlds

Year 5 and 6



Key Vocabulary

Antarctic	A polar region around the Earth's South Pole
Arctic	A polar region around the Earth's North Pole
Polar Regions	Regions of the Earth around the geographical
Biodiversity	A variety of things living in a given place
Expedition	A journey undertaken by a group of people
Biome	Biomes are areas of our planet with similar
Climate zone	Areas where there are similar weather
Microorganism	Microorganisms, or microbes, are a diverse group of small, simple forms of life that include bacteria, algae, fungi, protozoa, and viruses
Sea ice	Is formed by freezing sea water
Tundra	A vast, flat, sea-less region
Continent	Any of the World's continuous expanses of land

Relevant Reads –

The Rainbow Bear- Michael Morpurgo
Shackleton's Journey- Flying Eye Books
You Wouldn't Want to be on Shackleton's Polar Expedition
Race to the Frozen North – Catherine Johnson

Useful Websites –

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ernest-Henry-Shackleton>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/nature/habitats/polar/>

Key Information

- The Antarctic is a continent at the Earth's southernmost point.
- The Arctic is not a continent as it is actually made up of frozen sea that is surrounded by land. It is located at the World's northernmost point.
- The climate of Antarctica is the coldest on Earth. The lowest air temperature record on Antarctica was set on 21 July 1983, -89.2 c.
- The climate in the Arctic is also cold but the lowest temperature here has plummeted to -50 c.
- Each region has their own biodiversity, with animals and plants that have adapted over many years in order to survive these extreme conditions.
- Antarctica is the driest, windiest, emptiest and coldest place on Earth.
- The Arctic has a wealth of natural resources, including fish, oil, gas and minerals.
- Above the Arctic Circle, there is all-day sunshine in the summer for at least one day a year (and there is a full 24-hour of full-day darkness for at least one day too!)
- There are five major types of biomes: aquatic, grassland, forest, desert, and tundra.
- Biomes are areas of our planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants.
- Matthew Henson was an African American explorer best known as the co-discoverer of the North Pole with Robert Edwin Peary in 1909.
- The first undisputed expedition to reach the North Pole was one led by Roald Amundsen, who was also the first man to ever reach the South Pole in Antarctica. His airship flew the area in 1926 with a team of 16 aboard.
- Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton was an Irish Antarctic explorer who led three British expeditions to the Antarctic. His most famous expedition noted was aboard his ship, Endurance.



What I will be able to answer by the end of the topic:

Who was Matthew Henson?

Why were Henson's achievements not recognised?

How can you tell the difference between climate zones?

Can you name three different biomes?

What are the differences between The Arctic and The Antarctic?

What are the similarities between The Arctic and The Antarctic?

What was Shackleton famous for?