



Geography – Exploring Shackleton’s Antarctica

Year 5/6 Autumn Term



Prior Learning:

EYFS – cold places and animals
KS1 – The children have learnt about both the Arctic and Antarctica

Glacier - a slowly moving mass or river of ice formed by the accumulation and compaction of snow on mountains or near the poles.

Ice Shelf -A thick, permanent, floating sheet of ice that is derived from terrestrial *Tributary* glaciers. The back pressure from an ice shelf stabilises its tributary glaciers, which may be prone to acceleration, recession and retreat if the ice shelf melts away.

Tributary Glacier -A glacier that originates on land but flows out into the sea, where it begins to float. If the floating portion of the glacier combines with that of several other glaciers it forms floating ice shelf.

Can I answer these questions?

- Where is Antarctica?
- What is Antarctica ‘made of’?
- Who found Antarctica and when?
- What does ‘Antarctica’ mean?
- What was the planned journey of the Endurance expedition?
- Do people live on Antarctica?
- Who were the members of the Endurance expedition crew?

Key Vocabulary:

Sir Ernest	North America
Shackleton	South America
Expedition	Australasia
Antarctic	Antarctica
Continent	Landmass
Endurance	South Pole
cold climate	Longitude
resources	Latitude
journey	Antarctic circle
weather	Frank Hurley
Polar region	Climate
Landscape	Globe
Environment	time zones
Asia	Weddell Sea
Africa	research
Europe	

Key facts to remember

- Antarctica is a continent
- Antarctica changes size particularly in the winter months.
- It is found at the south on the Earth.
- Antarctica falls under all time zones used around the World.
- Three different men were named to have spotted Antarctica first
- Amundsen succeeded in reaching the South Pole on 14 December 1911
- Antarctica is the coldest place in the world.

- The Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition of 1914 was led by Ernest Shackleton and set out to set the record of crossing the continent via the South Pole
- Antarctica is at the opposite end of the earth from the Arctic. It is the Antipode of the Arctic so it is *ant*-arctic.
- There are two seasons in Antarctica – these are summer and winter.
- Antarctica is the world's largest desert because it has so little rain and very little grows there.



