

Links to prior learning –
Aut 1 – environment, Human
Physical features.
Names of continents and
oceans in Yr1

Year 2 – Polar Explorers

Geography content within all topics: Locational Knowledge, place knowledge, human and physical geography, geographical skills and field work

Links to other subjects –
Maths – temperatures
English – The Ice Queen
Science – Melting and
Freezing

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Polar Regions	Cold areas on Earth that are found at the Northern and Southern tips of the globe
expedition	A journey undertaken by a group of people with a particular purpose, especially that of exploration.
Inuit/Inuk	Inuk is one person, Inuit is plural for group of people from the Arctic regions of Northern Canada, Greenland and Alaska
igloo	Shelter built from blocks of solid snow, traditionally used by the Inuit in Arctic regions for shelter when out hunting.
Continent	Areas of land that make up the 7 land masses of the world
explorer	A person who travels by sea, air or land to unknown places
Arctic	Frozen sea surrounded by land at the North Pole. Temperature +13°C to -43°C
Antarctic	Frozen land surrounded by sea at the South Pole. Temperature -12°C to -62°C
frostbite	Injury caused by extreme cold mainly affecting fingers and toes.
blizzard	A severe snowstorm with high winds
glacier	A glacier is a huge mass of ice that moves slowly over land. When it gets to the coast it lifts and floats in the water, forming cliffs of ice that may be 60 meters (200 feet) high. Chunks of ice at the edge break away into the water—a process called calving. Calving is a violent process. It results in large waves and loud crashes. Floating chunks of glacial ice, broken off during calving, are called icebergs.
icebergs	Are parts of ice that formed on land, break away from glaciers and float in an ocean or lake. Icebergs come in all shapes and sizes. Scientists estimate the lifespan of an iceberg, from first snowfall on a glacier to final melting in the ocean, to be as long as 3,000 years.
global warming	Changes to the climate that is making the world warm up with pollution from humans the cause.

Key people, facts and sticky knowledge

Roald Amundsen Norwegian Polar Explorer. He was the 1 st explorer to reach the South Pole on 14th December, 1911, and planted the Norwegian flag. They had discovered a new route to the South Pole that took them only 57 days.
Ernest Shackleton Ernest Shackleton was a British polar explorer. In 1914 Shackleton took a team of men on an expedition to Antarctica on a ship called the Endurance as he wanted to be the first to pass through the South Pole via Antarctica. He did not reach the South Pole.
Robert Scott commanded the National Antarctic Expedition of 1901-1904. The expedition - which included Ernest Shackleton - reached further south than anyone before them. On 17 January 1912, they reached the South pole, only to find that a Norwegian party led by Roald Amundsen, had beaten them there.
Seasons in the Polar Regions - There are only two seasons , winter and summer. The Arctic winter lasts around 8 months. Antarctica has six months of daylight in its summer and six months of darkness in its winter. The seasons are caused by the tilt of Earth's axis in relation to the sun.
Continent The keyword when defining a continent is the term “landmass.” The Arctic or the North Pole is a frozen sea surrounded by land and does NOT have a land mass underneath. The Antarctic or the South Pole IS a landmass surrounded by sea. The Antarctic meets the criteria to be considered a continent because it has a landmass underneath, while the Arctic does not.
Polar Bears and Penguins Polar Bears inhabit the Arctic while Emperor Penguins inhabit Antarctica
<i>By the end of this period of learning</i> , pupils should be able to name famous Polar Explorers and describe their struggles and achievements. Explain the features of the Polar regions and the inhabitants. Begin to compare and understand the climate of the Arctic and Antarctica and know the animals that live in each Polar region and how they survive.

People and Animals of the Polar Regions



Maps and Ice

