

Knowledge Organiser Year 1 – Antarctica

Key Facts

Location: Antarctica is the southernmost continent on Earth. It covers a huge area, about 14 million square kilometres.

Wildlife : Antarctica does not have many different species live there. Life mainly exists in milder coastal areas and the Antarctica Peninsula. Plant and animals have had to adapt to survive. Animals have to adapt to ensure they stay warm. For example: having a thick layer of fat or feathers; burrowing into the ground to stay warm and hibernating during the coldest months.

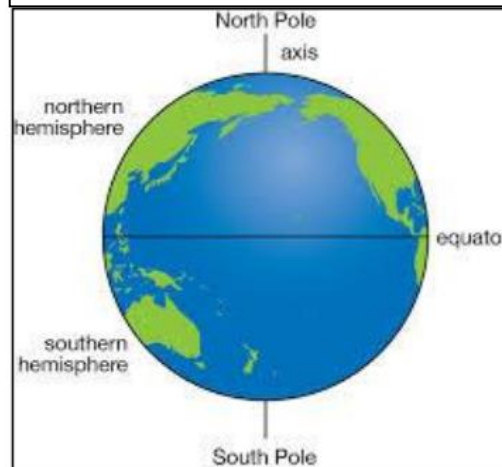
Physical Geography

- Antarctica is the 5th largest continent based on size.
- No one lives there but scientists will stay there to conduct research.
- Antarctica has no countries. and there are no major cities just scientific outposts.
- 98% of Antarctica is covered by ice. but it is considered a desert because it gets such little rain.
- Antarctica is quite mountainous.
- Antarctica is divided into three main parts: East Antarctica (the biggest part), West Antarctica and in between them the mountain range called the Transantarctic Mountains

Map of the Continents



Diagram



Vocabulary

Climate	the average weather over a period of time
Continent	a very large area of land that consists of many countries. Europe is a continent.
Desert	a region with very little rainfall
Ernest Shackleton	a polar explorer
Expedition	a journey undertaken by a group of people with a particular purpose.
Glacier	a river or large mass of ice formed by packed-down snow
Hemisphere	a half of the Earth divided by the equator
Ice sheet	a layer of ice covering a large piece of land
Mountainous	having many mountains
Navigate	plan and direct the course of a ship

Ernest Shackleton

Ernest Shackleton was a 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.

