

# Year 4 Geography: A study of Antarctica

## Prior Learning

- Know the continents of the world
- Know how the climate affects what lives and grows in that area
- Know the equator separates the northern and southern hemisphere
- Know that different maps show different things using symbols and keys

## Sticky Knowledge

- Antarctica is the southernmost continent on Earth located in the southern hemisphere and is surrounded by the Southern Ocean.
- Antarctica is the 5th largest continent based on size.
- No one lives there but scientists will stay there to conduct research.
- 98% of Antarctica is covered by ice.
- Antarctica is considered a desert because it experiences such little rain.
- Antarctica is quite mountainous.
- Antarctica has low biodiversity (not 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.
- 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



## Vocabulary

Biomes	A large geographical area which is home to certain plants and animals, specially adapted to suit the environment.
Climate	The usual or average weather conditions over a long period of time
Continent	A continent is a large continuous landmass, separated from other continents by water or other geographical features
Hemisphere	Time spent away from work relaxing.
Latitude	Imaginary parallel lines which circle the globe from east to west.
Longitude	Imaginary lines which run north to south across the globe from pole to pole
Polar regions	the Arctic in the north, and Antarctica in the south, are huge land masses that have a unique climate and wildlife
Tropic of Cancer	Is an imaginary line of latitude that is approximately 23½ degrees north of the equator
Tropic of Capricorn	Is an imaginary line of latitude that is approximately 23½ degrees south of the equator.

