

Subject: Geography Topic: Antarctica

Year Group: 7



Where do we find Antarctica?			
Antarctica	A continent lying mostly within the Antarctic Circle and centred on the South Pole. 95 percent of Antarctica is covered by an icecap averaging 1 mile in thickness.		
Desert	A dry region of little rainfall, extreme temperatures, and sparse vegetation.		
Antarctic	The Antarctic Treaty was signed in		
Treaty	1959 by 12 countries and sets out		
	the rules to manage the continent		
Franciski sa	and surrounding waters.		
Expedition	,		
	exploration and discovery. Norwegian explorer, Roald		
	Amundsen, first reached the South		
	Pole in 1911.		
The climate in Antarctica			
Weather	Weather describes the day-to-day		
	conditions of the atmosphere.		
Climate	Climate describes average weather		
	conditions over longer periods and over		
	large areas.		
Climate	Climate Example		
graph	graphs are a		
	combination of a bar and line		
	graph showing		
	temperature		
	and rainfall.		

	Plant and animal adaptations	
Adaptations	Physical and behavioural changes that help animals survive in certain conditions.	
Food web	The sequence of events in an ecosystem, where one organism eats another and then is eaten by another organism. Antarctic food web	N I
Apex predator	A predator at the top of the food chain with no natural predators of their own. E.g Orca	
Human activities in Antarctica		
Scientific research	Eighteen countries operate year-round scientific research stations on the continent and the surrounding islands. There are unique opportunities to study things that are not found anywhere else in the world.	3
Tourism	Tourists visit during the summer to enjoy the spectacular scenery and abundant wildlife. Figures show that 73,991 people travelled to Antarctica between October 2019 and April 2020.	C
Fishing	Some legal fishing is allowed off the coast of Antarctica but it is closely monitored. Approximately 400,000 tonnes of Antarctic krill was caught in 2019 alone.	

Protecting Antarctica			
Antarctic Treaty	The Antarctic Treaty now has 54 countries who have signed and committed to the protection of Antarctica and its waters through international law.		
Microplastics	Small particles of plastic that are less than 5mm in size. They are often found in the marine environment.		
Illegal fishing	Fishing that breaks international laws, boundaries and quantity of catch. Antarctic toothfish is often caught illegally due to its high price.		
Pollution	The contamination of soil, water, or the atmosphere by the discharge of harmful substances. Pollution is finding its way to Antarctica more frequently in various forms.		
Sea Shepherd	An organisation founded in 1977 with the mission of protecting marine environments. Their most notable missions have been in the Antarctic to prevent illegal whaling and fishing.		
Climate change and Antarctica			
Climate change	The planet's average surface temperature has risen about 1.18°C since the late 19th century. This is attributed to human activities and is known as anthropogenic (human caused) climate change.		
Sea level rise	Antarctica has the potential to contribute more than a metre of sea-level rise by 2100 and more than 15 metres by 2500.		