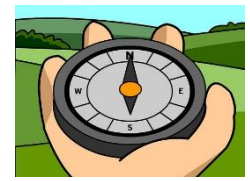


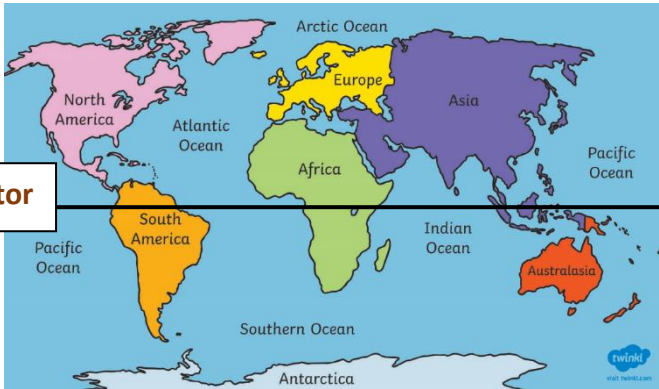


Year 2 Geography: Poles Apart



Key Knowledge

The Arctic



Antarctica

Many animals live in polar regions.



Polar bears (found in the **North Pole**) and penguins (found in the **South Pole**) are able to keep warm because they have **blubber** inside their skins. Blubber is a special layer of fat.

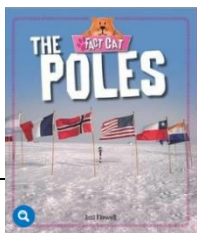
The Arctic

- It is at the very top of the Earth. It includes the areas around the North Pole.
- The Arctic isn't a country or a continent. It is actually mostly a frozen ocean.
- The Arctic only has 2 seasons – long, cold winters (-34°C) and short, cool summers (12°C).
- Despite the low temperatures, over 4 million people live in the Arctic.
- Mining for oil and gas, and fishing are important activities in the Arctic.

Antarctica

- It is at the bottom of the Earth. It includes the areas around the South Pole.
- Antarctica is actually a continent. This is because Antarctica is an area of land, covered in ice.
- During the winter (March to September) it is dark all the time and temperatures can fall to -60°C. During the summer it is light all the time (10°C).
- No people permanently live in Antarctica because it is too cold for them to live there for a long time.
- Scientists take turns living there for short periods of time to study the ice and the animals.

Polar books



Vocabulary

North Pole

The North Pole is the northernmost place on Earth.

South Pole

The South Pole is the southernmost place on Earth.

Equator

It is an imaginary line around the centre of the Earth. It is very hot at the Equator. It divides the Earth into the north and south hemispheres.

hemisphere

It is half the Earth divided into north and south by the equator. The UK is in the northern hemisphere.

continent

A large solid area of land. The Earth has 7 continents (**Asia, Africa, North and South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australasia**).

ocean

A large body of saltwater. There are 5 oceans in the world (**Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic and Southern Oceans**).

desert

A desert is a very dry place that experiences little rain and therefore plants don't grow there. Two of the world's biggest deserts are in polar regions.

iceberg

A large mass of ice that has broken away and is floating in the sea.

Inuit people

The group of people who are native to the Arctic and live there.