

# Topic

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KS1 — Oak Class

# Antarctica



## Vocabulary:

North Pole, South Pole, Polar Regions, Arctic, Antarctica, glaciers, icebergs, volcanoes, continents, equator, Orcas, Emperor Penguins, Captain Robert Scott, explorer, expedition, Terra Nova, Nimrod Expedition, Amundsen Expedition, Norway, motor sledges, skis, frostbite.

## Key Questions:

Where is Antarctica? What are the two Polar Regions? What is the weather like in Antarctica? What is the landscape in Antarctica like? Who lives there? What animals live there? When was Antarctica discovered? Who were the explorers trying to reach The South Pole in the 1900s? Who reached the South Pole first? When did Captain Scott reach The South Pole? What country was Amundsen from? How did the explorers travel across Antarctica? Why did the explorers struggle travelling across Antarctica? How did Scott feel about his journey?

## Key Concepts:

- The two polar regions are the Arctic and Antarctic.
- Antarctica is the coldest and windiest place on Earth. There are no towns or cities in the Antarctic.
- No people permanently live in the Antarctic as it is too cold for them to live there for too long.
- The Antarctic has glaciers, mountains, seas, valleys and even volcanoes! It is almost always covered in ice because it never rains.
- Animals who live in the Antarctic include: Orcas, Emperor Penguins, Dusky Dolphins, Elephant Seals and Leopard Seals.
- In the 1900s three explorers were determined to get to The South Pole first. These were Scott, Shackleton and Amundsen. The race was on!
- The explorers travelled 800 miles on foot, on sledges pulled by dogs, motor sledges, skis and horses.
- Captain Scott led an expedition in 1910 to The South Pole named 'Terra Nova'. They managed to reach The South Pole and planted the British flag there in 1912.
- Unfortunately Amundsen's team from Norway, had beaten them to it. Scott and his team were devastated.
- On their long journey back to the ship, The Terra Nova team suffered in the cold conditions and from lack of food supplies. So sadly they didn't make it home.
- Captain Scott had no regrets. He believed it was better to have tried and failed than never to have tried at all. He said, 'we followed our dreams in life and that's all you could wish for'.