



Into the Unknown

Vocabulary

Antarctica	The southern most continent and contains the geographical South Pole
Continent	A large solid area of land surrounded by sea.
Terrain	Land or ground, or the natural characteristics of its surface.
Climate	The average measurements of temperature, wind, humidity, snow, and rain in a place over the course of years.
Longitude & Latitude	A system of lines used to describe the location of any place on Earth. Lines of latitude run in an east-west direction across Earth. Lines of longitude run in a north-south direction.
Glacier	A huge mass of ice moving extremely slowly
Expedition	A long journey or voyage done for a specific purpose.



Key Questions

Where is Antarctica? How does the climate and seasons of the UK compare with those of Antarctica?

What is a Glacier and how are they monitored?

What has been changing in Antarctica recently and what are the responses towards supporting this?

What are the famous expeditions to Antarctica and what do people go to Antarctica for now?



Ernest Shackleton was an Irish Antarctic explorer who led three British expeditions to the Antarctic. He was one of the principal figures of the period known as the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration.

Discover Antarctica!

Antarctica is Earth's southernmost **continent**.

Around 98% of it is covered with thick **ice**.

Temperatures can drop to around -90 degrees Celsius and the **terrain** is ravished by strong winds.

It is the coldest, driest and windiest place on Earth.

There were 60 dogs and 1 cat, called Mrs Chippy, on **The Endurance**

In mid-winter (around 21 June) there are 2 weeks when night lasts for 24 hours. In summer (around Christmas) there are 2 weeks when there is 24-hour sunlight.

Core Texts

Ice Trap, The Ross, Shackleton's Journey

1901: Captain Scott leads the first Antarctic expedition .

1911: Roald Amundsen reaches the South Pole .

1912: Captain Scott and team die after reaching South Pole.

1914: Ernest Shackleton (Irish) attempts to cross the continent on foot. His boat **The Endurance**, gets stuck in the ice and is eventually rescued in **1917**.