Winter Wonderland

Previous Learning

In previous topics we have looked at the countries that make up the UK and learnt about Australia.

We know that there are 7 continents, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australasia (sometimes called Oceania).



Each continent is unique and has different physical features. Asia is very large, it is more than 5 times larger than Australasia. Africa is the hottest continent and Antarctica is the coldest. Africa has the most countries in it but Antarctica contains no countries.





Key Vocabulary

Ocean- A huge body of salt water. Oceans cover nearly 71% of the Earth's surface. The world ocean is divided into 5 main areas: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, Southern and Antarctic.

Continent- One of Earth's 7 main divisions of land. The continents in size order
(starting from the largest are: Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australasia.

Country - A large area of land where people live under the same government or have the same culture.

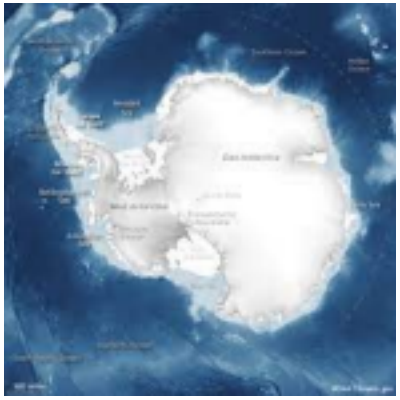
Map -A map is a drawing of all or part of Earth's surface. It is used to show where things are. Maps are scaled down to show a smaller version.

Compass -A compass is a tool for finding direction. The needle, which can spin freely, always points north.

Antarctica - the earth's southernmost continent. It's the icy region around the South Pole.

Antarctica is an ice covered continent surrounded by the Southern Ocean. Almost all of the continent's land is covered by a thick layer of ice.





Antarctica is the driest continent of the seven continents. Antarctica is an icy desert with very little rainfall throughout the year. Antarctica is the windiest place on the earth where wind speeds of more than 218 miles per hour have been measured.





Some of the animals that can be found in Antarctica are: penguins, whales, seals, albatrosses, other seabirds.

Explorer - a person who travels in search of geographical or scientific information.

Voyage - to take a long trip usually by boat.

On December 14, 1911, Norwegian Roald Amundsen became the first explorer to reach the South Pole.





Amundsen sailed by ship to reach the Antarctic and then continued the journey using sleigh dogs. The journey was very dangerous due to the harsh conditions and Amundsen was thought to be very brave and is known as one of the greatest figures in polar exploration.



