



Leopard Seal - The leopard seal gets its name because of the colour patterns on its fur and its fierce nature. Their favourite food is penguins. They can leap up onto the ice and quickly grab a penguin. They also feed on fish, krill, and squid.

Emperor Penguin - Emperor penguins are the biggest of all of the penguins! They are the only living species that have their babies during the Antarctic winter. Without a nest, the male keeps the egg warm by holding it on his feet under a fold of skin for 2 months! Unbelievable! What a Dad!!



Antarctic Explorers:

Roald Amundsen was an explorer of the North and South Poles. He led the first expedition to reach the South Pole and was the first person to visit both the North and South Pole. The following are some fun facts about Roald Amundsen:
Fun Facts about Roald Amundsen

- Amundsen left a flag on the North and South Pole to leave his mark.
- At one point he was attacked and nearly killed by a polar bear.
- When he reached the South Pole, he stayed there for three days to rest and get ready for the trip back.
- Roald Dahl, who wrote Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and James and the Giant Peach, was named after Amundsen.
- Roald learned valuable lessons of survival during these early trips to The North and South Pole. He even ate seal meat when he ran out of food!
- Roald was killed in a plane crash on an exhibition.



**Roald Amundsen
piloting his ship.**

The ice is melting....

Polar ice caps are huge sheets of ice that are found in both The North and South Pole. The ice is very, very thick and so the little sun that Antarctica has means that they don't melt very easily. However, scientists are worried that as the Earth continues to get hotter and hotter due to pollution and the high use of energy by humans that one day the ice will melt away. This would mean there would be flooding around the world and many animals and plants in the sea would die.



Antarctica

Antarctica is the world's largest desert because it has so little rain and very little grows there. Among the seven continents in the world, Antarctica is a unique continent that is full of ice and snow but there are some fascinating things that you might want to know about it.

Life in Antarctica:

There are just two seasons in Antarctica: a very short cold summer and a very long, colder winter. There are no local people in Antarctica which makes it a special continent in our planet. The only people who stay in Antarctica are scientists and explorers. – It is just too cold for people to live there permanently!



Plant Life:

Because of the extreme cold climate in this continent, there isn't a lot of plant life. The lack of sunlight, poor soil quality, and freezing temperatures mean that plants don't have all of the things that they need to grow. There are however some plants that grow here but they only last for a few weeks or perhaps for few days in summer.



Wildlife:

There are no land animals that actually live in Antarctica! However, the surrounding oceans are home to many living creatures! Many of these animals that live in the oceans surrounding Antarctica can often be seen pulling themselves out of the water and onto the ice to rest during feeding.

Penguins are the only birds that live here permanently. It's just too cold to support very many life forms! Below are pictures and facts about some of Antarctica's animals:



Blue Whale - named for its blue-gray colour, this huge whale may grow to be roughly 100 feet long and weigh more than 120 tons! The tongue of the blue whale can be as big as a car! The blue whale is the loudest animal on earth!

Orcas - In the Antarctic, Killer whales live amongst the broken ice. The Orca can live in lots of different temperatures. This is one of the reasons they are found in oceans all around the world.