



The Coldest Journey



Year 6—Autumn Term 2021

What's it all about?

This topic explores the coldest places on Earth—the polar regions. It will explore the effects that changes to climate have had on this area and the wider world. It seeks to explore current environmental issues with the children, a vital issue at the moment.



Geographers: We will be exploring the changes which have occurred over time in the polar region as a result of global warming. We will then learn about the greenhouse effect in our Biodome and look at what will happen to regions around the world if the polar ice melts and sea levels rise.

Readers: We will be exploring 'Shackleton's Journey' by William Grill where we will find out about the event filled 'Endurance' expedition in 1915. This will be used to inspire all of our writing for the half term. We will also be reading an adventure story 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell in our destination reader sessions, a fantastic story set in the Amazon.

Spellers: We will be looking at suffixes when added to words ending in y (mystery –mysterious, heavy—heavier) , the sh sound spelt ti or ci (direction, especially), and the sh sound spelt si or ssi (expansion, profession)

Writers: All our writing this half term links to 'Shackleton's Journey' our core text. We will consider what application we would need to write to join his polar expedition. We will imagine we are on the Endurance, Shackleton's ship, and write recounts of what we see and do. We will also be writing a non-chronological text on huskies in the polar climate.

Mathematicians: We will be looking at fractions, decimals and percentages. At the end of the half term, we will be exploring co-ordinates, translation and negative numbers.

Scientists: We will be creating electric circuits and experimenting with different components within them.

Musicians: We will be learning how to use notation to record and play melodies. We will also be looking at the work of Vivaldi.

Athletes: We will be working on teamwork to play 'river crossing' and learn to play 'kabadi'.

Design Technologists: We will be making motorised polar buggies to race in the hall against the rest of the year group. This will involve applying the learning which has taken place in our science lessons on electric circuits.

Family Learning Ideas:

Watch David Attenborough's Seven Worlds, One Planet, Series 1, Antarctica on the BBC iPlayer to give the children a sense of what the polar climate is like and what sort of creatures live there.

Values

We will be focusing on the value of cooperation this half term.

Inspiring Everyone To Learn