

Year 3

Polar Explorer



English

Focus Book: You Wouldn't Want To Be On Shackleton's Polar Expedition

We will begin the term learning about Shackleton expedition, Endurance. We will learn how to write a newspaper article about the failed expedition. Following this, we will write an explanation text detailing how the crew attempted to survive whilst stuck in Antarctica. Pupils will learn how to link ideas using various conjunctions, how they can organise ideas using paragraphs, headings and sub-headings. We will also look at using direct speech when adding witness statements in our newspaper articles.

Maths

We will begin the term by looking at problem solving involving all 4 operations. Following this, we will move to look at decimals. During this time, we will explore what happens when you make numbers 10 times greater and 10 times smaller as well using manipulatives to make different decimals. We finish the year by looking at measuring and 3D shapes where we will build 3D shapes and look at the different properties that the shapes have.

Science, Geography and History

Science

Key Questions:

How do boats float?
What shape will take the most passengers?
What is symmetry and do you know about parallel and perpendicular lines?
What is the atmosphere?
How is the Polar environment changing?
How do you eat like a Polar explorer?
Why do some items float in water and others sink?

Geography

Key Questions:

What is a polar desert and a tundra? What is the difference?
Where is Antarctica and the Arctic Circle?
How is Antarctica different to St Neots?
Why do some animals live in such a cold place?
Why can penguins survive in Antarctica but a camel can't?
Why are there such long pipes in tundra biomes? Why isn't this good for wildlife?
Why do people visit polar deserts?

Art and Design

Children will be looking at shell structures in Technology. They will use nets to make different 3D shapes. We will discuss how these shapes can be combined to make new structures, such as a boat.

Computing

The children will be using keynote to create slides about Healthy Lifestyles. They will learn how to add pictures, text and transition between slides.

PE

Indoor PE – The children will be playing games to develop their accuracy and aim towards a target.
Outdoor PE – Children will play games to understand territory and possession.

PSHE

The children will be learning about lifestyles with a focus on the importance of regular exercise.

RE

The children will be learning about the religion of Hinduism.

Music

The children will be listening to classical music throughout history. They will explore making percussive compositions.

Languages

Pupils will be learning about body parts, counting to 31, clothes and months of the year.

Motivation

Why do people want to explore such risky areas like the Antarctica?

Responsibility

Designing and making items in the style of that era.

Collaboration

We will work together to design and make a boat that floats in Science.

Perseverance

How do explorers bounce back after failures during expeditions?

Discovery

What discoveries were made during Endurance? How much more do we know 100 years later about Antarctica?

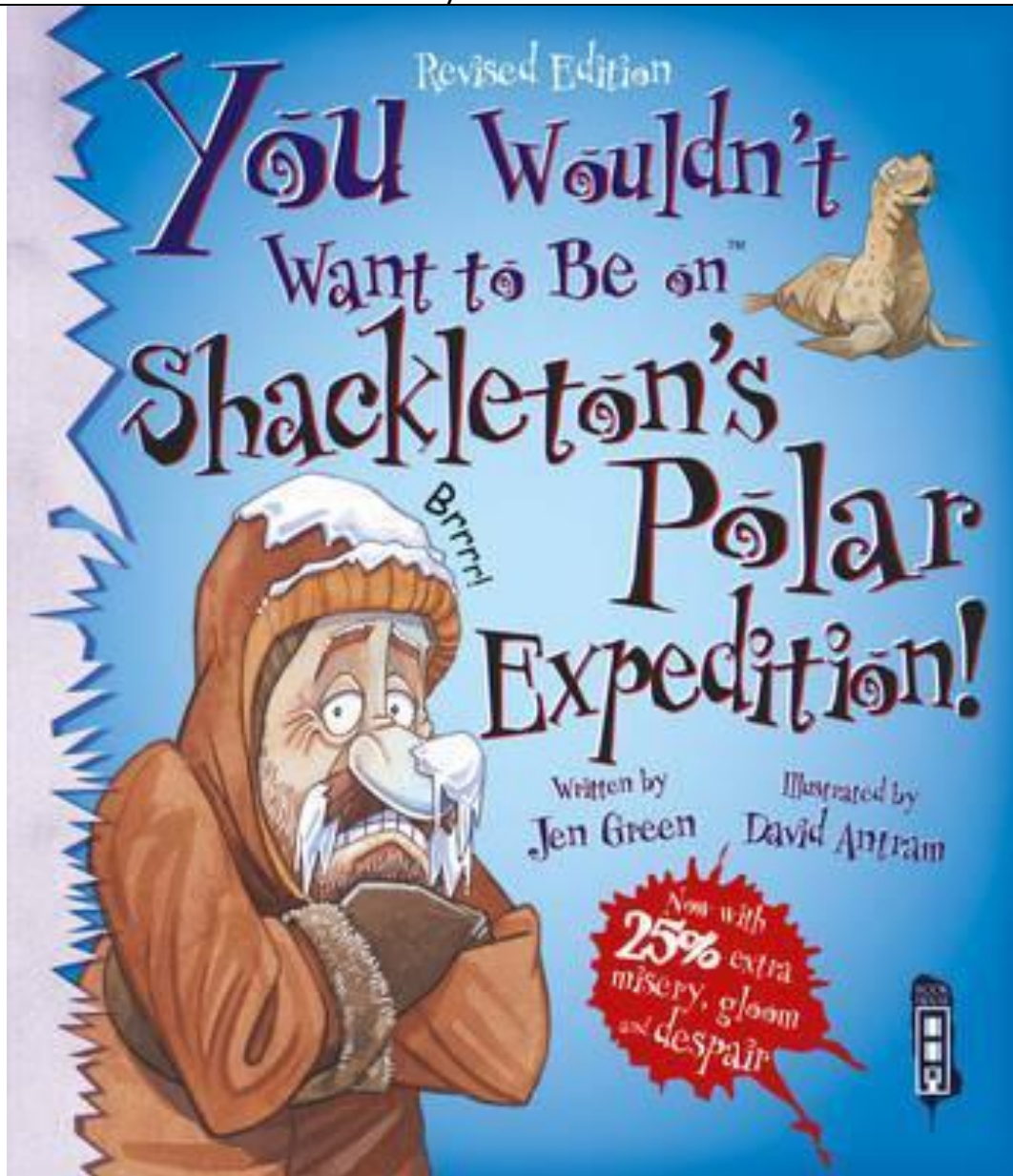
Growth Mindset

Ernest Shackleton showed a Growth Mindset many times throughout his expeditions. How can we demonstrate this?

Learning Values

You Wouldn't Want To Be On Shackleton's Polar Expedition

By Jen Green



Get ready...as a hardened sailor, you're about to join Shackleton in what will prove to be one of the most gruelling adventures of all time as you brave your way across the bitterly cold continent of Antarctica. As you encounter extreme cold, strong icy winds and a worrying lack of food and water, you'll soon see why you really wouldn't want to join Shackleton's polar expedition!

Other Recommended Reads Linked To This Theme:

The Penguin Who Wanted to Find Out by Jill Tomlinson & Paul Howard

Shackleton's Journey by William Grill

When the Sun Shines on Antarctica And Other Poems about the Frozen Continent by Irene Latham

Sophie Scott Goes South by Alison Lester