

Vocabulary	Meaning
polar region	the regions of the Earth located between the North or South Pole – Arctic and Antarctic circles
characteristics	a feature of quality belonging typically to a person, place or thing to identify them
Antarctic circle	the most southerly of the five major circles of latitude that mark maps of the Earth
expedition	a journey undertaken to explore or research
Trans-Antarctic	travelling across the Antarctic circle, in particular Antarctica
fauna	the animals of a particular region, habitat or geological period
peninsula	a piece of land surrounded by water to projecting out into a body of water
archipelago	an extensive group of islands
igneous rock	having solidified from lava or magma
metamorphic rock	formed from other rocks that are changed because of heat or pressure
Katabatic winds	a drainage wind – carrying high-density air from a higher elevation down with gravity
interior	situated inside – inner
climate change	change in regional and global climate patterns
infrastructure	basic physical or organisational structures and facilities

Key knowledge – Antarctica Size & Composition



Antarctica is **Earth's fifth largest continent**. Covered in ice, it surrounds Earth's southern pole.

- Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth.
- The temperature throughout the winter is cold enough to freeze water all the time.
- Antarctica has two seasons – Winter and Summer.
- In Summer it is always Sunny, in Winter it remains completely dark.

Key knowledge – What is the difference?

Ice Shelf



A floating platform of ice that forms a glacier or an ice sheet that flows out to the ocean surface.

Glacier



A slow-moving mass of ice formed by the accumulation and compaction of drifting snow.

Significant Individual – Ernest Shackleton



- Aged 25 he went on his first polar expedition in 1901
- Shackleton and his team noted weather observations and conditions experienced.