

Summer in Antarctica



Topic: Animal Kingdom/Environment/Weather

Curriculum link: Natural Science

Text type: Report/Description

Reading level: 23

Word count: 789

Vocabulary: Antarctica, coast, cruise, icebergs, kilometres, krill, penguins, predators, seals, thawed-out

Possible literacy focus:

- Using the prefix 'kilo'.
- Using the contents page.
- Using adjectives of comparison: cold, colder, coldest.

Follow-up activities

Summary chart

As a class, complete a summary chart like the one below with information about what happens in Antarctica at different times of the year.

Encourage the children to refer back to the book to confirm their ideas.

Apr-Sep	Oct-Nov	Dec-Jan

In the December-January section, the children could also add specific facts about animals such as krill and penguins.

Brainstorm

Before reading the text with the children, ask them to look at the front cover. Discuss key words in the title and ask the children to predict what the text will be about. List these ideas on the board. Also ask the children to suggest some of the vocabulary that they expect to see in the text. Return to this list after reading the book and revise your earlier predictions.

Adjectives of comparison

Ask the children to look at page 4 of *Summer in Antarctica*. Point out the first sentence of the text – Antarctica is the **coldest** place on earth.

What does this tell us about Antarctica?

Words like 'colder' and 'coldest' are words that compare things.

Ask the children to work with a partner to think of other adjectives of comparison, e.g. hotter, hottest; smaller, smallest

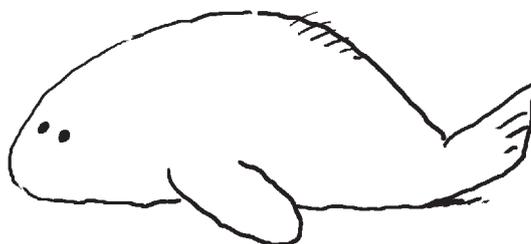
Suggest to the children that they can use these words in their own writing when they need to compare things.

Research

You will need:

paper, pencils, books on Antarctica or Internet access

1. Find out some extra information about Antarctica or one of the animals featured in the book.
2. Write a topic heading.
3. Jot down some facts about the topic.
4. Now write this information in sentences.
5. Illustrate your work.
6. Share your information with the class.



Animal model

You will need:

cardboard, coloured paper, crepe paper, small boxes, feathers, icypole sticks, material, pipe cleaners, pencils, felt pens, sticky tape, glue, scissors

1. Choose an animal from *Summer in Antarctica*.
2. Make a model of this animal.
3. Write some facts about this animal.
4. Display your animal in the classroom.



Prefixes

Prefixes are added to the beginning of some words. They change or add to the meaning.

e.g. 'kilo' in **kilogram** and **kilometre** means 1000.

Find some words that have these prefixes and add them to the chart.

kilo-	bi-	un-
kilometre	biplane	unfreeze
re-	semi-	dis-
refund	semitrailer	disappear

Now look for other prefixes.

Mini book

Write about each animal in your own words.

Animals in Antarctica

by _____

Krill

Penguins

Other birds

Seals

Whales

Instructions The children can illustrate the book and staple the pages together when they have finished.