

Key Knowledge:

- The Poles are either of the two locations on the surfaces of the Earth which are at the northern and southern ends of the axis of the Earth. The area at the north is called the Arctic and the area at the south is called the Antarctic.
- These areas are generally uninhabitable due to the climate. They are made of sheets of ice which are liable to breakage and temperatures can reach as low as -75 degrees.
- The Antarctic is a continent capped by an inland ice sheet up to 4.8km thick, containing around 90% of the Earth's fresh water.
- Antarctica is a cold desert. The highest mountain is Mount Vinson, rising to 4900m above sea level.
- The Antarctic is surrounded by the Southern Ocean whereas the Arctic is an ocean covered with thick sea-ice.
- Japan is an island country comprising a stratovolcanic archipelago over 3000km along East Asia's pacific coast. It consists of 6582 islands.
- The Japanese landscape is rugged with more than 4/5 of the land surface consisting of mountains and volcanoes. The climate in Japan is temperate consisting of four distinct seasons.

Diagrams or Maps.



Key Vocabulary:

Arctic – relating to the regions around the area around the North Pole.

Antarctic – relating to the regions around the South Pole.

Pole – either of the two locations on the surface of the Earth which are at the northern and southern ends of the axis of the Earth.

Polar region –

Latitude – a circle on the Earth's surface parallel to the equator.

Longitude – a semicircle on the Earth's surface running from one pole to the other.

Climate – the weather conditions prevailing in an area in general over a period of time.

Uninhabitable – a place unsuitable for living in.

Expedition – a journey undertaken by a group of people with a particular purpose, especially that of research, exploration or war.

Explorer – a person who explores a new or unfamiliar area.

Endurance – the ability to endure a difficult process without giving up.

Biome – a large naturally-occurring area community of flora and fauna occupying a major habitat.

Global warming – a gradual increase in the temperature of the Earth's atmosphere

Human feature – refer to things around us that are built / made by humans.

Physical feature – refer to things around us that are made naturally.

Plants and Animals:

Antarctica has an abundance of animal life, almost all of which depend on the sea to survive. Animals include: seals, whales, penguins.

Krill, Snow Petrel, Wandering Albatross and the Arctic Tern. There are no trees or shrubs, only two flowering plants: Antarctic Hair

Grass and Antarctic Pearlwort.

The Arctic has a wider range of animals and plants than Antarctica. Mosses, lichen, and low-growing herbaceous perennials characterise Arctic vegetation. Animals include: Arctic Fox, Arctic Hare, Arctic Tern, Woolly Bear Moth, Beluga Whale, Greenland Shark, Canada Goose, Caribou, Narwhal, Orca, Moose, Dall Sheep, Bearded Seal, Ermine, Lemming, Puffin, Musk Ox, Snowy Owl, Hooded Seal, Polar Bear, Seal Otter, Walrus and the Wolverine.

Animals native to Japan include: the Red-crowned Crane, Black Bear, Stellar's Sea Lion, Japanese Pond Turtle, Green Pheasant, Japanese Gant, Salamander, Sika Deer, Japanese Macaque, Dugong, Amami Rabbit. Plants include: Azalea, Japanese Cedar, Hydrangea, Iris, Japanese Pine, Lotus, Japanese Maple, Horsetail and Street Plants.

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- Using map skills to locate features of the poles.
- Using map skills to locate the journey taken by Michael in Kensuke's Kingdom.
- Using compass directions to plot and track Michael's journey
- compare and contrast the poles.
- To identify physical and human features of the different biomes.
- identify lines of latitude and longitude, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.
- use geographical vocabulary when describing places.
- understand how global warming has changed our Earth and how this is likely to affect our world in the future.
- consider exploration and land use and the advantages and disadvantages of doing so.
- develop deep contextual knowledge of both the North and South Poles
- Interpret a range of geographical information.
- Communicate geographical information in a variety of ways.