

Exploring the Polar Regions with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To understand the physical characteristics, climate, and unique geography of the Arctic and the Antarctic.

Use your geographical knowledge to complete the following tasks. Finn the dolphin is travelling from the warm currents to the icy poles and needs your help to map the differences!

Finn the dolphin is swimming towards the Earth's extremes. The Arctic is an ocean surrounded by land, while the Antarctic is a continent surrounded by ocean. Both regions are defined by freezing temperatures, thick ice, and unique seasonal sunlight patterns like the Midnight Sun and Polar Night.

Word bank: Arctic · Antarctic · Tundra · Ice sheet · Glacier · Latitude · Equator · Permafrost

1. Explain one major physical difference between the Arctic and the Antarctic in terms of their geographical location. (2 marks)

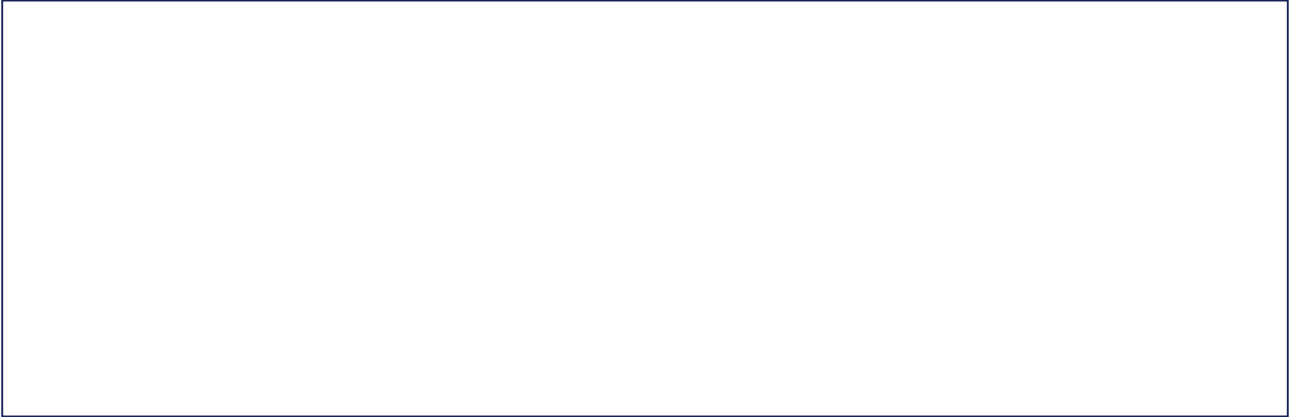
2. What is the name of the frozen ground found in parts of the Arctic, and why does it make building houses or roads difficult? (2 marks)

3. Describe how the tilt of the Earth creates the 'Midnight Sun' phenomenon in the polar regions during summer months. (2 marks)

4. If a research team needs to buy thermal suits costing £145 each for 4 scientists, what is the total cost in pounds? (2 marks)

5. Name two ways that animals have adapted to survive in the extreme cold of the polar regions. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram showing the difference between the Arctic (an ocean at the top of the world) and the Antarctic (a continent at the bottom). Label where the ice sheets are located.



Extension challenge: Research the 'Aurora Borealis' (Northern Lights). Write a short paragraph explaining what causes these lights and why they are best seen in high latitude regions like the Arctic Circle.