



Year Group : Years 5 and 6 (KS2)

Date Monday 8th June 2020

Subject : Geography - The Polar Regions

LO : I can answer questions about Russia.

Prior Learning : Earlier in the year, your child studied The Polar Regions - we will be recapping and revising the knowledge we covered.

Knowledge

The Polar Regions, also called the frigid zones of Earth, are the regions of the planet that surround its geographical poles, lying within the polar circles.

There are two main Polar Regions in the world, which are the Arctic and the Antarctic.

The main difference between the North and South Pole is that the Arctic is connected to Europe and Canada, meaning there are more species of both animals and plants than in the Antarctic which is completely isolated from the rest of the world.

The North Pole, also known as the Geographic North Pole or Terrestrial North Pole, is defined as the point in the Northern Hemisphere where the Earth's axis of rotation meets its surface. The North Pole is the northernmost point on the Earth, lying diametrically opposite the South Pole. The Arctic Circle encircles the North Pole and is a geographic region defined as a circle of latitude of which all surface area above that line is defined as within the Arctic Circle. It has a specific and characteristic cold climate and is extensively covered in ice. Its equivalent in the southern hemisphere (the North Pole and Arctic Circle being in the northern) is the Antarctic Circle. The pole is surrounded by the Arctic Ocean, where the water is 13,400 feet (4,084 meters) deep and usually covered with drifting ice 6-to-10 feet (1.8 to 3 m) thick. About 434 light-years above

the pole lies Polaris, the "North Star." During the course of the night, Polaris does not rise or set, but remains in very nearly the same spot above the northern axis year-round while the other stars circle around it. The star has been an important marker for navigation for centuries.



The Arctic Circle

The Arctic Circle is one of the two polar circles and the most northerly, of the five major circles of latitude as shown on maps of Earth. It marks the northernmost point at which the centre of the noon sun is just visible on the December solstice and the southernmost point at which the centre of the midnight sun is just visible on the June solstice. The region north of this circle is known as the Arctic, and the zone just to the south is called the Northern Temperate Zone.

The Arctic Circle passes through Northern America, Greenland, North Asia, the Scandinavian Peninsula, and the Arctic Ocean. Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, the United States (Alaska), Canada, Greenland (Denmark) and Iceland are the 8 countries containing land in the Arctic Circle.

The Antarctic Circle

The Antarctic Circle is the most southerly, of the five major circles of latitude that mark maps of the Earth. The region south of this circle is known as the Antarctic, and the zone immediately to the north is called the Southern Temperate Zone. South of the Antarctic Circle, the sun is above the horizon for 24 continuous hours at least once per year and the centre of the sun is below the horizon for 24 continuous hours at least once per year; this is also true within the equivalent polar circle in the Northern Hemisphere, the Arctic Circle.

Complete the 2Dos on Purple Mash

Activity 1 - Name the continents of the world

Activity 2 - Name the oceans of the world.

Activity 3 - Colour and write the names of the countries in the Polar Regions.

Use a colour coded key.