

East Antarctic Marine Park

Focus Questions

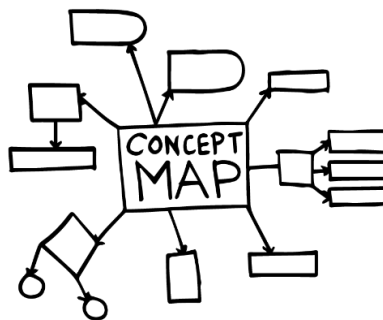
1. Briefly summarise the BTN *East Antarctic Marine Park* story.
2. Where in Australia are marine experts meeting for a conference on Antarctica?
3. What are some of the animals that can be found in the Antarctic? Name two.
4. Polar bears can be found in Antarctica. True or false?
5. When was the Antarctic Treaty written?
6. What do Australia's scientists do in Antarctica? Give an example.
7. What is a marine protected area?
8. What species found in Antarctica are scientists particularly concerned about?
9. Why is Russia objecting to the proposed Antarctic marine park?
10. What questions do you have about Antarctica?

Activity

Class Discussion

As a class discuss the BTN *East Antarctic Marine Park* story using the following questions as a guide. Record the main points of discussion on a mind map with ANTARCTICA at the centre.

- What do you know about Antarctica?
- Why is Antarctica a unique environment?
- What is a marine park?
- Why is it important to protect Antarctica?
- What are the threats to Antarctica?
- Think of a question you would like to ask an expert about the East Antarctic Marine Park.



Key Learning

Students will learn more about the marine park proposed for East Antarctica and why it's important to protect the area.

Curriculum

Science – Year 4

Living things, including plants and animals, depend on each other and the environment to survive.

Science – Year 5

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.

Science – Year 6

The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment.

HASS – Year 5

The environmental and human influences on the location and characteristics of a place and the management of spaces within them.

Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN *East Antarctic Marine Park* story. Here are some words to get them started.

Marine park	Ecosystem	Climate change
Biodiversity	Adaptation	Antarctic Treaty

Define: What do I want to know?

Key questions to research

Students can choose one or more of the following questions or come up with their own:

- Why is a marine park proposed for East Antarctica? Why is it important to protect the area?
- A ban on fishing for krill in the D'Urville Sea-Mertz is being proposed in the marine park. Investigate the importance of krill as a food source for animals in Antarctica. Find out which animals feed on krill. What does krill feed on? Draw a diagram showing what animal feeds on what. Explore what would happen to all these animals if krill numbers were significantly reduced.
- Describe Australia's connection to Antarctica. Create a timeline showing major expeditions and discoveries made by Australians in Antarctica.
- Who owns Antarctica? Explore which countries have territorial claims in Antarctica and draw on a map.
- What is the Antarctic Treaty? What is the main purpose of it? What makes Antarctica unique in relation to its rules and the way it is run.

Locate: Where do I find the information?

What resources will help answer my questions? (Internet, people, resource centre, organisations, print). Discuss with students what a reliable source is.

Select: What information is important for the investigation?

Students may need support to sort through and select relevant information.

Organise: How do I make sense of the information?

Students can organise their research by creating main headings from their questions. Write each heading on a separate piece of paper. Record the information found for each question.

Present: How do we let others know about this information?

Each group needs to discuss then decide on the best way to present the information. Possibilities could include:

- A 'Did You Know' Facts sheet
- Infographic
- Oral presentation
- [Prezi](#) presentation
- Create an infographic using [Canva](#)

Evaluate: What have we learnt?

Each group reflects on what they have learnt about Antarctica during their investigation. Students will reflect on their learning and respond to the following.

- What I learned...
- What I found surprising...
- What I would do differently next time...

Activity

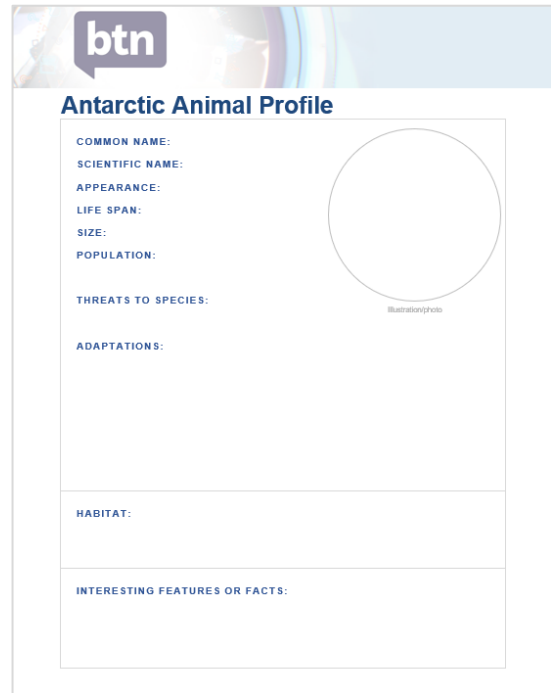
Profile

Students will research an Antarctic animal that lives in an area of the East Antarctic Marine Park. Students will choose an animal to explore, create a profile and then share their findings with the class. Here are some suggestions:

- Antarctic toothfish
- Mackerel icefish
- Antarctic silverfish
- Krill
- Weddell seal
- Adelie penguins

Students can use the profile worksheet at the end of this activity to organise and present their information.

- Common and scientific name
- Appearance - what are some of their physical characteristics?
- Describe their habitat.
- Threats - what are some of the threats to their survival?
- Adaptations and interesting features.

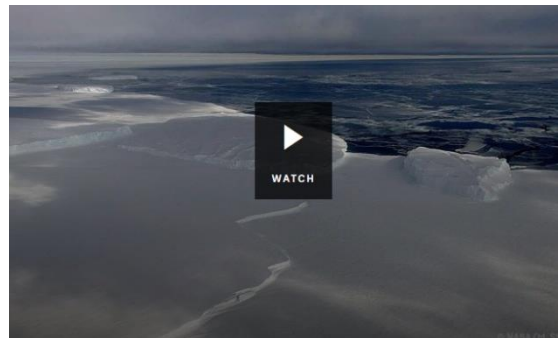


The worksheet is titled "Antarctic Animal Profile" and features a "btn" logo in the top left corner. It contains several labeled sections for student input: "COMMON NAME:", "SCIENTIFIC NAME:", "APPEARANCE:", "LIFE SPAN:", "SIZE:", "POPULATION:", "THREATS TO SPECIES:", "ADAPTATIONS:", "HABITAT:", and "INTERESTING FEATURES OR FACTS:". A large empty circle on the right side is labeled "Illustration/photo" at its base.

Activity

Students watch the BTN [Antarctic Marine Park](#) story to find out more about the Ross Sea Marine Park then answer the following questions:

1. Why is Antarctica a unique environment?
2. Where will the marine park be located?
3. The marine park is an area the size of _____.
4. The area is one of the most pristine environments in the world. What does that mean?
5. The Ross Sea is home to which unique animals?
6. Why do environmentalists want to protect the Ross Sea?
7. Scientists say the marine park will help them study climate change. True or false?



Activity

Quiz

Students will create a quiz about Antarctica using [Kahoot!](#). Quizzes can be created to recap learning or test personal knowledge. There is also the option to connect with classrooms around the world and play kahoot in real time.



Useful Websites

Antarctic Marine Park – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/antarctic-marine-park/10523832>

Antarctica Special – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/antarctica-special/10937004>

A Marine Protected Area for East Antarctica – Australian Antarctic Division

<http://www.antarctica.gov.au/law-and-treaty/ccamlr/marine-protected-areas>



Antarctic Animal Profile

COMMON NAME:

SCIENTIFIC NAME:

APPEARANCE:

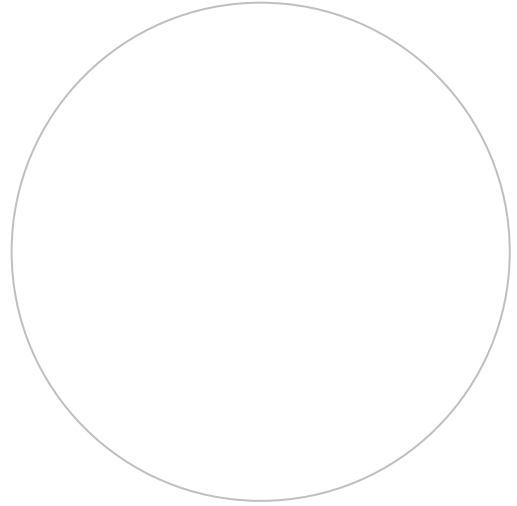
LIFE SPAN:

SIZE:

POPULATION:

THREATS TO SPECIES:

ADAPTATIONS:



Illustration/photo

HABITAT:

INTERESTING FEATURES OR FACTS: