

Antarctic passport

Time: 1 hour

Introduction This activity explores what kind of characteristics a potential team member on a polar exploration would need. Each child will need to think carefully about the qualities s/he thinks are important to be part of a polar team.

Learning Objective:

To create the text and key information required for a passport to the South Pole. To identify the qualities the children think are important to be part of a polar team.

Resources

1. Passport photos or digital cameras for photos
2. Height chart or measuring tapes
3. Ink pads for thumb prints.

1 Ask the children to plan and agree what should go on a passport fact-file. The information could include thumb-prints and passport sized photos, as well as the following information:

1. Full Name
2. Nationality
3. Date and Place of Birth
4. Eye Colour
5. Hair Colour
6. Height
7. Favourite Animal and Why
8. Hero and Why
9. Eco Credentials - What do they do for the environment? Recycle? Save energy or water? Cycle?

2 Next ask the children to discuss the characteristics and qualities they feel they would need to be a successful member of a polar team, travelling to the bottom of the world and living with a small group of people in harsh polar conditions. Can they think of at least three qualities that would make them a good team member and can they give examples of when they have shown these qualities? Share their findings. Examples could include easy-going, courageous, patient, resilient, flexible or adaptable, good sense of humour, risk taker?

3 With their completed fact-files the children should then write supporting statements that highlight the three (or more) qualities that would make them worthy members of an Antarctic expedition.

Differentiation

Support will need to be given to enable the children to draw out the key features that would make them a special member of an Antarctica team. Can they think of three reasons as to why they should go? 'I should go to Antarctica because ...'

Success Criteria

The children are able to present themselves through their passport and statements as someone special, someone worthy of this Antarctic experience.

