Antarctica is a fascinating and beautiful place. It is the world's last great wilderness and also has a profound effect on the world's climate and ocean systems. Antarctica is therefore a unique natural laboratory for the study of global processes, such as climate change and ozone depletion. The study of Antarctica is becoming increasingly popular with UK secondary schools and colleges. However, there is very little educational material available.

The Antarctic Schools Pack is intended for students in the 16–18 age range studying at secondary schools, sixth-form colleges and colleges of further education in the UK. The aim of the pack is to provide students with expert, new and relevant information about Antarctica, and to set this information out in an accessible and exciting way.

The pack is designed to be interdisciplinary and to be used as part of A-level and Scottish Higher studies. It will be of interest to students studying geography,

There are 15 topics covered by the Antarctic Schools Pack. They are:

1. The nature of Antarctica
2. Discovery of Antarctica
3. Living and working in Antarctica
4. Science in Antarctica
5. The Antarctic Treaty System
6. Geology in Antarctica
7. Antarctic ice
8. The Antarctic climate
9. The ozone hole
10. Geospace
11. Terrestrial and freshwater lake ecosystems
12. Marine ecosystems
13. Management and conservation of marine species
14. Environmental protection of Antarctica
15. Tourism in Antarctica

The majestic emperor penguin only breeds in Antarctica
The pack has been devised and written by scientists at the British Antarctic Survey, with the help of an educational consultant and experts at the Scott Polar Research Institute and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

Each of the 15 topics comprises a double-sided Worksheet and three double-sided pages of Resources. The Worksheet provides an introduction and narrative to the topic and a series of tasks that can be undertaken by students on their own, in small groups, or as a class. The Resources provide a wide variety of materials, including scientific data, photographs, satellite images, maps, diagrams and written summaries of particular issues. Most of the Resources use materials which are unavailable elsewhere and have been specially prepared by the British Antarctic Survey for the pack. The Worksheet tasks and Resources have been designed to cater for a wide range of student abilities. Some are simple and easy, others are difficult.

The pack is designed to be flexible. One option is for teachers to select a topic and ask students to complete all the tasks in the Worksheet. In this way the pack can be used for independent study. As all the Resources are designed to stand on their own, an alternative option is for teachers to select specific tasks and Resources and then incorporate them into their existing teaching schemes.

To assist teachers in lesson planning, a separate set of Teachers’ Notes has been produced to accompany the pack. The notes provide guidance on the key skills and ideas introduced by each topic, summary background information, and answers to the tasks set in the Worksheets.

The Antarctic Schools Pack is provided copyright-free for educational use by schools and colleges. Wherever possible, Worksheets and Resources have been designed for multiple photo-copying.

It is hoped that the Antarctic Schools Pack will enable students to learn about and appreciate this unique and wonderful continent designated as a natural reserve devoted to peace and science.

If you or your students have any comments about the Antarctica Schools Pack or would like further information please write to the Information Office, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET.
**Useful information**

**Bibliography**


**Useful web sites**

5. British Antarctic Survey (BAS). [http://www.nerc-bas.ac.uk](http://www.nerc-bas.ac.uk)
8. Dundee Heritage Trust. [http://www.villos.co.uk/discovery.html](http://www.villos.co.uk/discovery.html)

**Useful addresses**

1. British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingly Road, Cambridge. CB3 0ET.
2. Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge. CB2 1ER.
3. Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge. CB2 1ER.
4. Polar Regions Section, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, London. SW1A 2AH.
5. United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust, The Blue House, East Marden, Chichester, Sussex. PO18 9JE.

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Designed by Lyn Henry.

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