

Geography : Hot and Cold Places Knowledge Mat – Year 1

Subject Specific Vocabulary

North Pole

The North Pole is the northernmost place on Earth. When at the North Pole all directions point south.

South Pole

The South Pole is the southernmost place on Earth. When at the South Pole all directions point north.

equator

This is an imaginary line around the centre of the Earth. It is very hot at the Equator. It divides the Earth into the north and south hemispheres.

meerkat

An animal that is often found in dry places like deserts. Meerkats belong to the mongoose family.

penguin

A large seabird that cannot fly. Found in the South Pole. There are many types with the most famous probably being the Emperor penguin.

polar bear

A large, white Arctic Bear found in the North Pole. It is one of the most popular animals in the world.

desert

A desert is a very dry place that experiences little rain and therefore plants don't grow there. It is difficult to find water in a desert.

hemisphere

It is half the Earth divided into north and south by the equator. Britain is in the northern hemisphere.

humid

When there is a lot of moisture in the air it is said to be humid. Hot countries often are very humid.

scorching

To burn slightly or to cause a change in colour because of the heat.

camouflage

When an animals markings helps it to blend in with its environment.



Sticky Knowledge about Hot and Cold places

- ☐ Not all deserts are covered by sand, only 20% of all deserts are covered with sand.
- ☐ During the South Pole winter (mid March to mid September) it is dark all the time. During the summer it is light all the time.
- ☐ Even though we think they should be, not all deserts are hot. Two of the world's biggest deserts are in the North and South Poles.
- ☐ Polar bears and penguins are able to keep warm because they have blubber inside their skins.
- ☐ The largest hot desert in the world is the Sahara and the largest cold desert is Antarctica
- ☐ Hot desert are usually very hot during the day but can get very cold at night. Some hot deserts can reach freezing point at night.
- ☐ Despite the low temperatures over 4 million people live in the polar regions.

Exciting Books



Animals that live in the polar regions

- penguins
- polar bears
- Arctic fox
- seal
- reindeer
- walrus

Animals that live close to the equator

- meerkats
- lizards
- scorpion
- coyote
- camel