

## PRE ACTIVITY

Find the synonyms of these words from the passage.

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Living things = _____ | 5. Evolution = _____ |
| 2. Come to be = _____    | 6. Enormous = _____  |
| 3. Chasm = _____         | 7. Dangerous = _____ |
| 4. Invulnerable = _____  | 8. Enigmatic = _____ |

## Biodiversity and Geography of Antarctica

Choose the correct word to fill in the blanks.

Antarctica is the coldest, 1. \_\_\_\_\_ and driest continent in the world. So what do you think: which creatures live on this continent where there is no settled life?

1. a) windiest  
b) rainiest  
c) sunniest  
d) funniest

Polar bears? No! Contrary to the popular belief, polar bears and penguins do not live in the same place. Large land animals such as polar bears live in the Arctic known as the North Pole. Small land animals such as penguins and animals such as whales, birds, fish and seals live in Antarctica, known as the South Pole. But remember that this continent is the natural 2. \_\_\_\_\_ of penguins. So let's take a closer look at the animals that inhabit the mysterious white continent!

2. a) enemy  
b) disaster  
c) habitat  
d) possibility

- If one day you end up in Antarctica, be careful! No no! It's not the sharks you should be afraid of, it's the seals we call Persian seals! Although these animals feed on meat and often hunt penguins, they are known to have 3. \_\_\_\_\_ a researcher before.
- Penguins... they look so cute, don't they? Well then, did you know that the pink poop of penguins can be seen from 4. \_\_\_\_\_ and that their poop can be traced by satellite imagery?

3. a) tickled  
b) shot  
c) killed  
d) missed

Yes, you heard right! The poops of our cute friends are in a sweet color just like them!

- To have a simple stone, yes only one stone, what would you give? Adelie penguins, the penguin species we call; They can do anything to get gems! Yes, you heard right; everything! They can even steal each other's stones!
- In a simple penguin family; while the mother penguin is looking for food, the father penguin takes care of the children. I think we should take some penguins as an example, right?
- There is a profession that studies our lovely penguin friends and it is called 'penguinologist.' Would you like to have such a profession?
- But what about 'space' about which we have limited knowledge? How does the thought of living in space make you feel? There are water bears, also known as 'tardigrades', in Antarctica and are known as the resistant animals in the world. These creatures, which can also live in space; are another subject of research.
- Did you know that gigantic whales only feed on krill the size of a bean? How ironic, right?
- The blood of animals and humans is red, right? But the blood of ice fish living in Antarctica is white compared to the blood of many animals. White blood... Don't you think it's cool too?

4. a) Arctic  
b) space  
c) clouds  
d) Equator

These were some of the interesting information I could find for you. Come on; now let's examine the geography of this mysterious continent.

It is a continent located asymmetrically around the South Pole. It is closer to the shores of South America than to the shores of other continents. The farthest coast to Antarctica is the African coast.

Let's talk about the interesting geographical features of this continent, which is divided into East and West by the prime meridian, in a few items:

- Researchers have discovered inactive volcanoes in Antarctica that may become active as a result of the progression of global warming. And if it becomes active, it is thought that the continent will melt very rapidly, and it is not possible to freeze the continent again.
- If you think that Antarctica's floor consists of a flat sheet of ice, you are wrong. Because there are cracks in the continent that cannot be seen with the naked eye and have thousands of depths. If one day you go to Antarctica, be careful where you step. Otherwise, you may find yourself in crevices several meters deep!
- People are often surprised when they hear the phrase: Antarctica is a 5. \_\_\_\_\_. Although the continent contains a large amount of water, it has many regions that are completely frozen as if savings have been made. Therefore, it is the driest and largest desert in the world.
- And if one day you end up in Antarctica, the weather can be deadly for you if you don't find the right protection method. Because in most of the continent, there is a huge fast wind blowing from the slopes.
- Imagine! If only ice was covering Antarctica; wouldn't it be too simple? Of course yes! The continent has much more than that and is much more complex. More than 400 sub-ice lakes have been discovered under the ice mass that surrounds Antarctica.
- Antarctica accounts for about 90% of the world's ice and about 70% of fresh water. It is known that if all of them melt, the sea level will rise all over the world.

5. a) ocean  
b) planet  
c) forest  
d) desert

That's all, the limited information we could find. Perhaps the mysterious continent Antarctica has many features that have not yet been discovered, we do not know. But we can be sure that Antarctica is not just about these. What do you think about this mysterious white continent? What other mysteries could it hold?

### Decide what the underlined words in the text refer to.

1. These animals refer to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. They refer to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. It refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
5. These creatures refer to \_\_\_\_\_.

## POST ACTIVITY

Answer the questions below according to the text.

1. Which one below is **NOT** mentioned in the text?

- A) Living animals in Antarctica
- B) The profession of studying penguins
- C) Antarctica is located at the North Pole

2. The author of the passage thinks that .....

- A) The geography in Antarctica is favorable for living
- B) Antarctica is a mysterious and interesting
- C) Antarctica is not a desert

3. "Antarctica accounts for about 90% of the world's ice and about 70% of fresh water." Which sentence below has the closest meaning to this sentence?

- A) 10% of the world's ice and 30% of its water is on other continents
- B) Most of the ice and water of the world is in the rest of the world other than Antarctica
- C) All the fresh water on Earth is in Antarctica