

Frozen Kingdoms

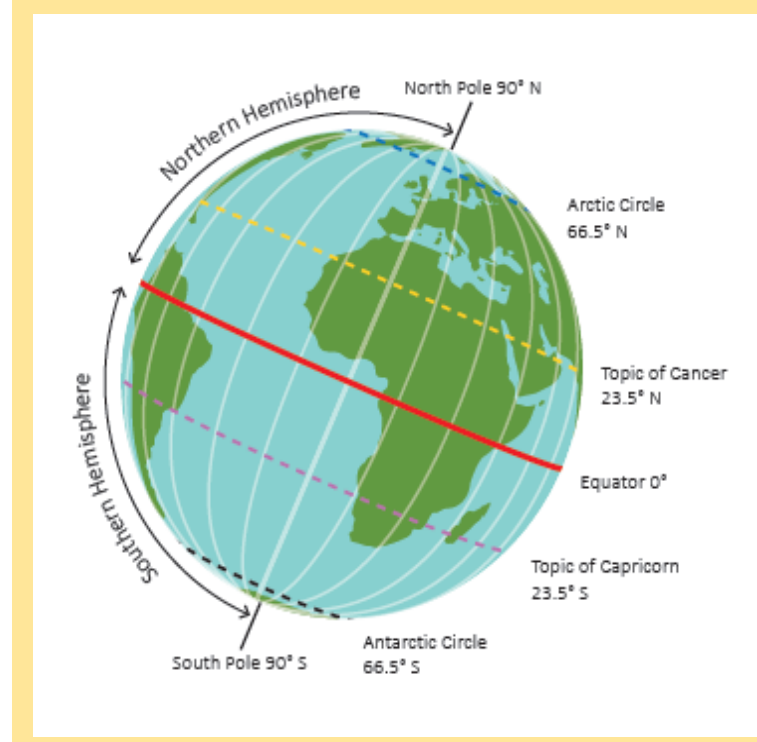
Enquiry Question: What are the coldest parts of the Earth like?

Vocabulary	Definition
Antarctic Circle	An imaginary circle of latitude that lies 66.5
Arctic Circle	An imaginary circle of latitude that lies 66.5
climate	The usual weather conditions that occur in a
North Pole	The northernmost geographical point on the
South Pole	The southernmost geographical point on the
polar day	Near constant daylight in the Arctic or Antarctic during the summer months when the Sun does not set below the horizon.
polar night	Near constant darkness in the Arctic or Antarctic during the winter months when the sun does not rise above the horizon.
polar regions	Collective name for the Arctic and Antarctic.
glacier	Slow-moving masses of flowing ice.
climate change	The change in temperature of the Earth due to human activities such as burning fossil fuels and deforestation.

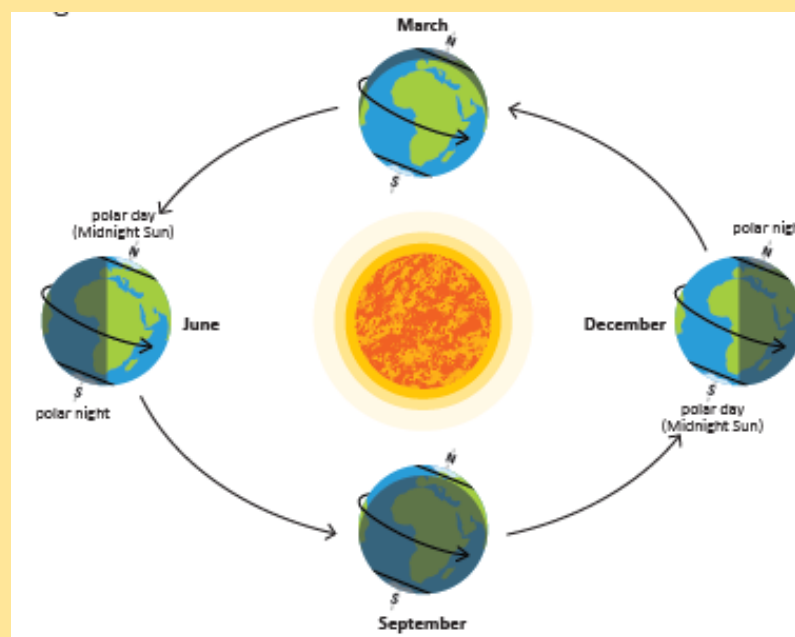
Climate change

The Arctic landscape and wildlife are at risk due to climate change. Scientists are concerned that the rising global temperature is causing the polar ice to melt. This causes sea levels and temperatures to rise, meaning that weather patterns will change and the polar regions will be damaged.

Location of Polar regions



Polar day and night



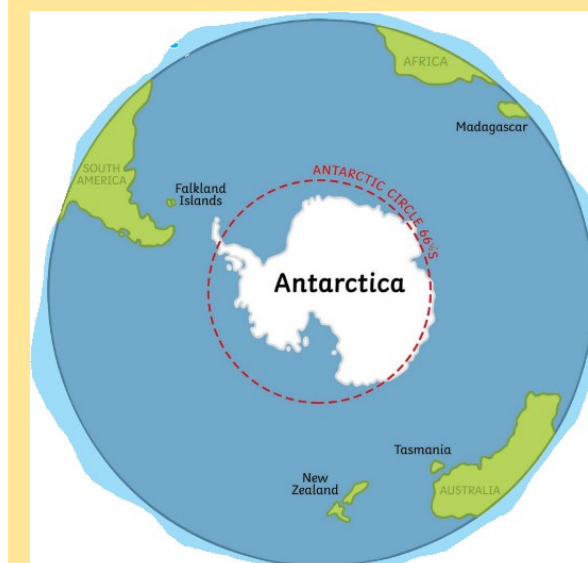
In the summer, the poles experience nearly 24 hours of daylight which is called 'polar day'. In the winter, the poles experience nearly 24 hours of darkness which is called 'polar night'. This is due to the tilt of the Earth.

Arctic region



Winter temperatures can reach -50 C and summer temperatures can reach 10 C. The landscape is varied and includes mountains, tundra and boreal forest. It is home to small populations of people and a variety of plants and animals.

Antarctic region



Winter temperatures can drop to -89 C and there is little precipitation. No people permanently live there, although scientists stay for part of the year to carry out research. There is lots of sea life native to the area.