

# Explore Polar Climates



**Polar climate** areas of the world are very cold with lots of snow and strong winds.

It is so cold that only research scientists, Polar bears and Seals live there.

The land is flat and covered with snow & ice. In warmer areas exists vegetation called the Tundra.

The Tundra is on top of a thin layer of ice called permafrost, which will never melt.

Small plants, like Lichen, a mix of algae & fungus, and red leafed plants (absorbs heat) appear in the summer.

The temperature is always very cold and averages 10 to 20F (-12C to 6C).

The North Pole is called the Arctic Region.

The South Pole is called the Antarctic Region.

The first man to reach the South Pole was Roald Amundsen (from Norway) along with four men and dogs on December 14th 1911.

## Polar climate links and additional information:

**-Polar Adventure!** How are the north and south polar regions the same?

**Link:** <http://dixiesd.marin.k12.ca.us/dixieschool/Classrooms/gaskin/polar/sim.html>

**-Br-r-r-r! Bundle up!** You are getting ready to be an arctic explorer. Have you ever wondered how polar animals survive in such extreme arctic weather?

**Link:**

<http://www.ga.unc.edu/NCTA/NCTA/WebQuest/Cotswold/WebQuest/Index3.html>

**-A K12 student** presents information on animals in Polar Regions and a food chain.

**Link:** [http://www.learninglive.co.uk/srb-](http://www.learninglive.co.uk/srb-projects/internet/pages/habitat%20adaptation/webpages/panoramas/polar%20pan.html)

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**-The geographic South Pole** (90 degrees South) has long been a prized goal of Antarctic explorers.

**Link:** <http://astro.uchicago.edu/cara/vtour/pole/>

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