Exploring The Antarctic:
Robert Falcon Scott
Aim

• I can find out about Captain Scott’s journey to the Antarctic.

Success Criteria

• I can think of reasons for and against Captain Scott going to the Antarctic.
• I can write a diary entry from the point of view of Captain Scott on the journey back from the Antarctic.
• I can recall some key facts about Captain Scott’s journey to the Antarctic.
What parts of the world could be explored?

- deep sea
- deserts
- polar regions
- jungles
The Arctic and the Antarctic

The Arctic

The Arctic is the polar region at the northernmost part of the Earth. The North Pole is the point at the northernmost part of the Earth.

The Antarctic

The Antarctic is the polar region at the southernmost part of the Earth. The South Pole is the point at the southernmost part of the Earth.
Antarctica

- Antarctica is an enormous continent. Britain could fit into it more than 50 times! More than 99% of it is covered in ice. In places, this ice is more than three miles thick!

- It is windy and extremely cold. No people live there permanently and there are no life forms at all except from around the coast.
Captain Robert Falcon Scott was born in Devon in 1868 and became an officer in the Royal Navy.

- He led two expeditions to Antarctica. The first took place between 1901 – 1904. In 1910, he sailed out for his second voyage there.
- The purpose of the expeditions was to find out more about the animals, the weather and the land of Antarctica.
- Scott and his fellow explorers also wanted to be the first to reach the South Pole.

Can you think of reasons why the Antarctic would be a difficult place to cross?
Robert Falcon Scott
Should Scott and his companions have gone to the Antarctic?

Was it a good idea to go there?
Can you think of reasons for and against Scott going to the Antarctic?

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Conscience Alley

For

Against
What happened to Captain Scott?
Scott set out on his journey with the latest technology including mechanical sledges. When the technology failed, he had to rely on the few dogs he took in case of such an emergency. Most of the men pulled the sledges by themselves, which was exhausting!
They slept in sleeping bags made from reindeer fur. However, they became wet and cold because the floors of their tents could not keep out the snow. They also struggled with frostbite and snow blindness.
When they reached the South Pole on 17-18\textsuperscript{th} January 1912, they discovered that a team of Norwegian explorers had arrived before them.
Scott and his companions had to travel back 800 miles through freezing temperatures and ice. They had a disastrous time with blizzards, gale force winds, poor clothing and little food.
Eventually they all died. Many months later, a search party found their bodies, wrapped them in their tent and buried them in the snow.
Scott’s Diary

Captain Scott kept a diary to record what was happening for the entire journey through the Antarctic.

What do you think he wrote on the journey back from the South Pole?
What was happening to him and his companions?
Your Diary Entries

- What do you like about your partner’s diary entry?
- What could be improved?
- What have we learnt about Captain Scott?
- Was his journey similar to the other explorers we have been learning about?