



# Antarctica



**Sarah Fleming**

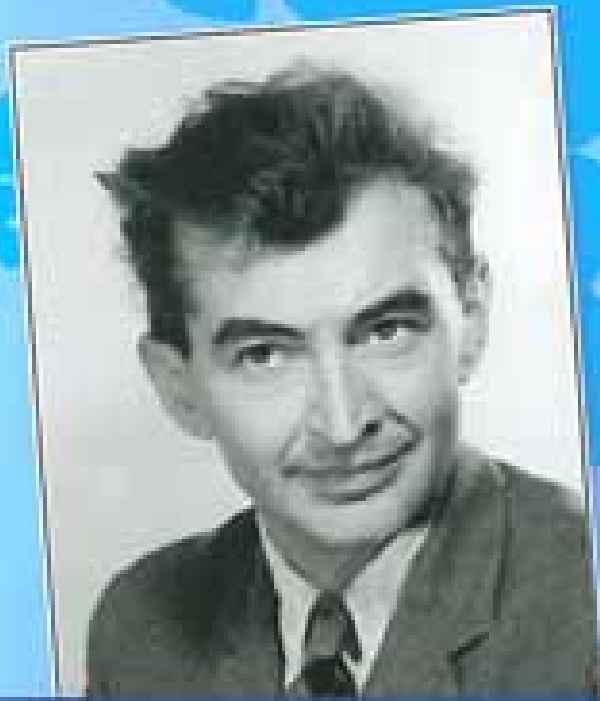
**KEY**

Where you see these:

- ✱ try to read
- ✱ the words on
- ✱ your own.

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## Meet Bernard Stonehouse

Bernard has been going to Antarctica since 1946. He has mapped pieces of Antarctica and studied penguins and other wildlife there. Throughout the book Bernard gives personal reports about some of his experiences in Antarctica.



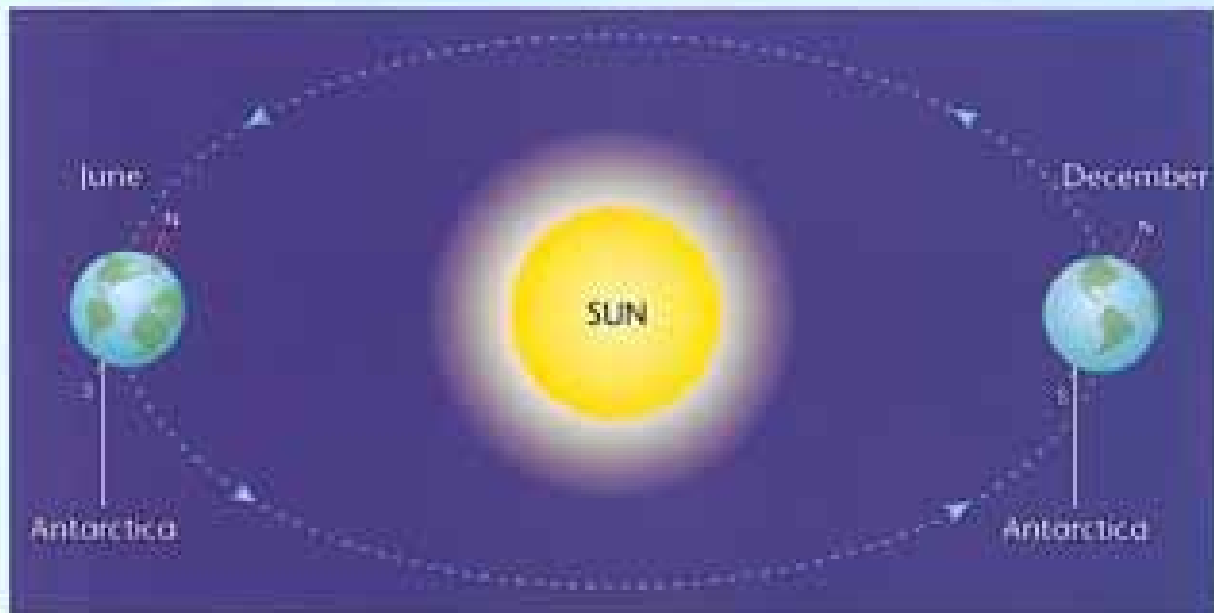
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# Where Is Antarctica?

- ★ Antarctica (say Ant-ARK-tih-kuh) is
- ★ the continent at the South Pole.



- ★ At the South Pole, it is light for half of the year and dark for the other half.
- ★ The ice at the North Pole just floats on the water, so it is not a continent. At the South Pole the ice covers
- ★ land, so it is a continent.

## DEFINITIONS

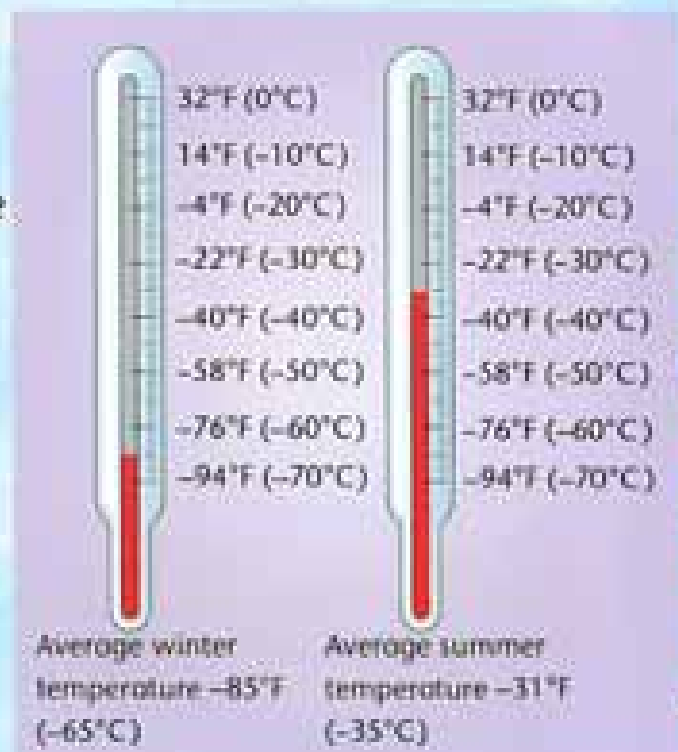
**continent:** one of the seven very large land areas in the world

**pole:** the farthest point south or north in the world. The earth turns around these imaginary poles.



Standing at 9,163 feet (2,793 m) above **sea level** (8,705 feet, or 2,653 m, of that is ice).

- ❄ This pole marks the South Pole. It is stuck into the ice, but the ice covering the land is always moving slowly toward the sea. Every so often, the pole has to be put back in the right place.



# Getting There

- ★ Antarctica is difficult to get to. To get there by ship, you have to cross the southern ocean.
- ★ There is not much land around Antarctica, so high water and very strong winds build up.
- ★



Huge storm winds and waves as big as a house are normal.



- ★ You also have to get across icy seas. In the winter, half of the southern ocean freezes over completely, making Antarctica twice its real size. For eight months of the year, you cannot get to the Antarctic mainland by sea.
- ★
- ★