

WAGOLL Non-Chronological Reports

Year 3

POLAR BEARS

Introduction

Polar bears are large and powerful mammals that live in the freezing Arctic. They are perfectly adapted to survive in extremely cold environments where very few animals can live. Their bodies are built for snow, ice and freezing water.

Appearance

Polar bears have thick white fur that helps them to camouflage in snow and ice. Under the fur, their black skin absorbs heat from the sun. A thick layer of blubber keeps their bodies warm, even in icy temperatures.

Habitat

Polar bears live near Arctic sea ice. They travel across frozen oceans to hunt and rest. Sea ice is essential for their survival because it allows them to find food.

Diet

Polar bears are carnivores. They mostly eat seals, which they catch by waiting patiently near ice holes. Their sharp claws and strong jaws help them catch slippery prey.

Behaviour

Polar bears are solitary animals and usually live alone. They are excellent swimmers and can swim for long distances in cold water.

Glossary

Arctic: A freezing region at the top of the Earth.

Blubber: A thick layer of fat that keeps animals warm.

Carnivore: An animal that eats meat.

Camouflage: Colours or patterns that help animals blend into their surroundings.

Solitary: Living alone most of the time.

VOLCANOES

Introduction

Volcanoes are natural openings in the Earth's crust where molten rock, ash and gas escape from deep underground. They can be found on land or under the sea.

Structure

A volcano has a magma chamber underground, a vent and a crater at the top. Magma rises through the vent before erupting onto the Earth's surface as lava.

Eruptions

When pressure builds up, volcanoes erupt. Some eruptions are gentle and slow, while others are violent and explosive, sending ash high into the air.

Effects

Volcanic eruptions can destroy buildings and land, but the ash can also make soil fertile, helping plants to grow.

Location

Many volcanoes are found near tectonic plate boundaries where the Earth's plates move.

Glossary

Magma: Hot melted rock beneath the Earth's surface.

Lava: Magma that has reached the Earth's surface.

Crater: The bowl-shaped opening at the top of a volcano.

Eruption: When lava, ash and gas burst out of a volcano.

Tectonic plates: Large pieces of the Earth's crust that move slowly.

THE ROMAN ARMY

Introduction

The Roman army was one of the most powerful and organised armies in history. It helped the Romans conquer lands and protect their empire.

Soldiers

Roman soldiers were called legionaries. They were highly trained, disciplined and expected to obey orders at all times.

Equipment

Legionaries wore armour and helmets to protect themselves. They carried shields called scuta and swords called gladii.

Organisation

The army was divided into legions, cohorts and centuries. This organisation made the army strong and efficient.

Daily Life

Roman soldiers trained every day, marched long distances and built forts, roads and camps.

Glossary

Legionary: A trained soldier in the Roman army.

Empire: A group of lands ruled by one leader.

Scutum: A large curved Roman shield.

Gladius: A short Roman sword.

Discipline: Following rules and orders carefully.

RAINFORESTS

Introduction

Rainforests are hot, wet forests that are full of plants and animals. They are some of the most important habitats on Earth.

Climate

Rainforests have warm temperatures and heavy rainfall all year. This climate helps plants grow quickly.

Layers

Rainforests have four layers: emergent, canopy, understory and forest floor. Each layer is home to different animals.

Wildlife

Rainforests are home to monkeys, parrots, frogs, insects and jaguars. Many animals use trees for shelter and food.

Importance

Rainforests produce oxygen, store carbon and provide food and medicine for people around the world.

Glossary

Equator: An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth.

Canopy: The layer formed by the tops of tall rainforest trees.

Understory: The layer below the canopy.

Climate: The weather of a place over a long time.

Habitat: The natural home of a living thing.

SHARKS

Introduction

Sharks are fish that live in oceans all over the world. They have lived on Earth for millions of years.

Body

Sharks have fins, sharp teeth and gills to breathe underwater. Their streamlined bodies help them swim quickly.

Diet

Most sharks are carnivores and eat fish, seals or squid. Some sharks eat plankton instead.

Senses

Sharks have excellent senses. They can detect vibrations and movement in the water.

Facts

Although sharks may seem scary, most species are not dangerous to humans.

Glossary

Gills: Organs that allow fish to breathe underwater.

Streamlined: A smooth shape that helps animals move easily.

Predator: An animal that hunts other animals for food.

Vibration: A movement that can be felt.

Plankton: Tiny plants and animals floating in water.