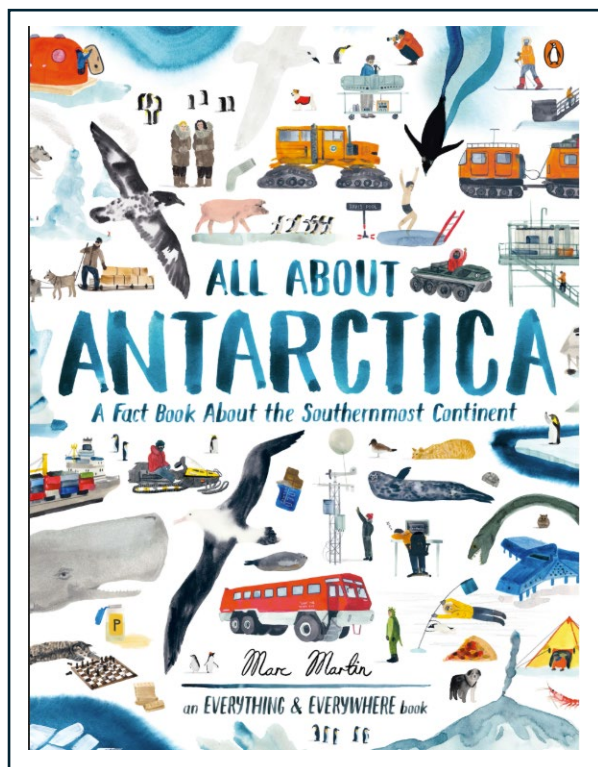




Teachers' Resources



PLOT SUMMARY

From award-winning author and illustrator Marc Martin:
A fact-packed illustrated journey to the coldest place on Earth – Antarctica!

Antarctica is a fragile and fascinating world that most of us will never see – and it's disappearing. Learn all about it before it's too late. *All About Antarctica* is an inviting and exciting reading experience with brilliant colour illustrations paired with bite-sized facts on every page.

Put on your parka and snowshoes and step into this nonfiction picture book to embark on a journey to the way, way south.

From colossal squids and active volcanoes to research vessels and cricket matches, there's a lot more to the South Pole than just penguins and icebergs (though there are also a *lot* of penguins and icebergs). Learn how humans survive in the coldest, driest, windiest place on Earth.

RECOMMENDED FOR (ages 5+; years 1 to 5)

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KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

• Learning areas: English, Science, Hums • General capabilities: Literacy; Critical and creative thinking; Ethical understanding

REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

For anyone interested in environmental science, technology, polar animals, nature or geography. Perfect for teachers, educators, and librarians seeking illustrated nonfiction books with STEM content.

THEMES

• Our world • Polar science, animals and habitat • environmental awareness • adventurers and explorers

PUBLICATION DETAILS

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Title of the book

ABOUT THE AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

Marc Martin is an artist, illustrator, and picture-book maker based in Melbourne, Australia. His work is a world of dense colour, rich textures and the odd scribble. He is the author and illustrator of internationally award-winning books, including *A Forest*, *The Curious Explorers Illustrated Guide to Exotic Animals A-Z*, *Max*, *A River*, *Lots* and *Masters of Disguise*.

AUTHOR'S INSPIRATION

Antarctica has always fascinated me – it's like the world's biggest, iciest mystery! Its landscapes are breathtaking and its wildlife extraordinary, yet only a lucky few (mostly scientists), get to live and work there.

It's also one of the most fragile places on our planet, and I wanted to create a way for people to explore this incredible continent without leaving a footprint - so its unique climate and ecosystems remain protected.

Through the book's illustrations and facts, readers can journey across icy landscapes, meet incredible creatures, and gain a sense of why this place matters – all while keeping this special place safe for the species that call it home.

Writing Style

The information is presented as inviting and exciting bite-sized facts that are accessible to even the youngest school-aged child and present opportunities for older/more advanced readers to research further.

The tone is factual and straightforward, but occasionally conversational, and presents quite sophisticated

information in a way that isn't daunting for emerging readers.

Lots of 'fun facts' are included to hold readers' interest and aide memory. For example:

- McMurdo station has pizza available twenty-four hours a day. There's even a pizza hotline to call ahead and request your favourite toppings!
- Lumus Rock, in the Wilhelm Archipelago, off the coast of the Antarctic Peninsula, is named after Lummo (nicknamed Lumus), a cat that was part of the British Graham Land expedition from 1934 to 1937 and enjoyed curling up in the snow.
- Around 30 countries operate research stations in Antarctica. The UK's Halley VI Station has eight modules (known as pods) that sit on skis, allowing the station to move to safer ice if needed.
- There's an all-day outdoor music festival held annually at McMurdo Station called Icestock on or around New Year's Day. Bands are made up of people who work at the station.

Nested headings provide a way to access information of interest and scan for content.

Questions and activities

1. How might this information be presented differently? Look at a selection of non-fiction books and think about how the information is presented – compare and contrast to Marc's style.
2. The tone has been described as occasionally 'conversational'. What do you think that means? Which paragraphs feel conversational to you? Which paragraphs feel more 'straightforward and factual'?
3. What do you enjoy about the book? Did you learn some facts about Antarctic? Would you like to go to Antarctica one day? How would you get there?



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Visual Literacy

All About Antarctica is visually engaging with many brilliant and beautiful watercolour-style images illustrating the text on each page.

The style is friendly and accessible, with lots of visual information to linger on and some unexpected humour. The illustrations are doing a lot of work conveying much of the non-fiction detail.

Marc Martin is a much-loved illustrator of non-fiction with a distinctive and recognisable style.

Questions and activities

1. What about the illustration style do you find 'friendly' and accessible? Does this illustration style make you want to pick up this book and why?
2. Is there humour in the illustrations? Find one that you found cute or funny.
3. Take a look at *Lots* by the same author/illustrator. What are the similarities in the way the book is put together and the illustration, design and writing style.
4. What style of illustration would you use for a book like this? Take one paragraph from the book and draw your own illustration for it.

KEY STUDY TOPICS

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Antarctica is central to conversations and curricula about climate change and environmental protection, as scientists believe it is warming at almost twice the rate of the rest of the world. *All About Antarctica* allows readers to get a deeper look into this unique place and learn about the global importance of the southernmost continent.

Questions and activities

1. What treaty allows people from all over the world to conduct research in Antarctica? What do signatories of the treaty agree to and what sorts of research are they doing? On a world map, can you find the countries that originally signed?

2. Climate change is talked about as 'global warming'. What other things might a scientist measure to track the extent of climate change? Can you make your own poster (with images or drawings) warning about the changes that are impacting Antarctica?
3. Introduced species can impact an ecosystem. What animals have been introduced to Antarctica in the past and what negative effect might they have on the environment?
4. Just one glacier holds enough water to raise the sea level globally by 65cm. Can you find out which one? Look up what 'sea level' means. Using an atlas, find out how high above sea level your school is. Are there places around you that would be under water if that glacier melted?

ADVENTURERS & EXPLORERS

This book offers a thrilling illustrated adventure into the fascinating world of Antarctica, a place where curiosity meets science, and broadly covers the history of polar exploration.

Questions and activities

1. For a long time people have wanted to explore this fascinating continent, but exploration has been very dangerous and often deadly. Write a short newspaper article talking about the most memorable of the explorers of Antarctica. Who were they? When did they live? What were they trying to achieve and how did their expedition end? Try to use the structure and language of a newspaper, including an enticing headline.
2. If you had to pack a bag to explore Antarctica, what would you pack? Which of the research stations would you like to live in and what vehicle would you drive? Write a fictional diary from the POV of a modern scientist in Antarctica.
3. Write a short creative story set in Antarctica. It can be any genre from SF to detective story to adventure story or family story.
4. Animals are adventurers too! Choose one of the animals in the book and write a creative story about their experience in Antarctica – include non-fiction information about when they arrived and what their job was as background.



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5. If you had a chance to see one of the natural wonders of Antarctica, which would you see and why? Write a short email home to your best friend to describe what you have seen.

THE SCIENCE OF ANTARCTICA

The polar environment is unique and sensitive to changes in the rest of the world. And changes to the environment in Antarctica will have impacts throughout the world. Because of the pristine environments and clear skies, scientists can study the skies, the weather, chemistry, sunlight, the Earth's ozone layer, lightning strikes, water salinity and acidity and much more.

Questions and activities

1. What are some of the scientific research jobs that might take you to Antarctica? Write down your top three and what they do. Write a job ad for the one you think you'd really like.
2. Read about the amazing technology that allows us to understand more about polar science and understand the Antarctic environment. Choose one and do some research to learn a little more about what information they have gathered and what they learned. Draw an infographic to present this information to the class.
3. You might have noticed that boats and ships have names. One of the AUVs is called Boaty McBoatface. If you were naming a boat, what would you call it and why?
4. Do you think that the information gathered by scientists is important? All science relies on funding often provided by the government and funded from tax. Can you write a persuasive text arguing the importance of Antarctic research?

POLAR ANIMALS AND THEIR HABITAT

Thanks to its extreme weather, remoteness and the harsh and arid environment, the wildlife of Antarctica has had to evolve in very special ways.

Questions and activities

1. Can you find one behaviour that is unusual that allows a species of Antarctic animals to survive in

Antarctica? Write short information text to explain your findings.

2. Look up and write down the definition of evolution. Can you find one physical trait that a species has evolved that allows them to live in the tough environment of Antarctica or the waters around it? Explain to the class how that has helped them survive.
3. Compare the range of animals that can survive naturally in Antarctica to the range of animals that survive on other continents. Are there many mammals? Birds? Fish? What type of animal do you think survives best in this kind of climate and why?
4. Read the page about extraordinary species. It sounds like these are too strange to be real, but they are! Choose one that interests you (your favourite or the scariest or the grossest or the biggest) and find out more.
5. Can you draw a penguin? Try to draw one of your own in any style you like!



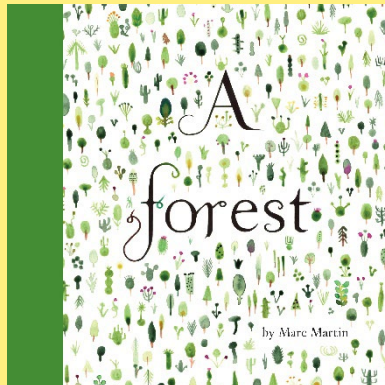
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Further reading from Penguin Random House



Lots by Marc Martin

A book about everything* for everyone. From Hong Kong to the Amazon and Ulaanbaatar to Antarctica, come on a guided journey around the world and discover the many things that make each place unique. Sleepy sloths, colourful cows, prolific pastries, staggering skylines, terrible traffic, bustling bodies, burglarising baboons . . . you'll be surprised by what you find along the way! A stunning graphic picture book with quirky facts about different places around the world.



A Forest by Marc Martin

There once was a forest . . . So begins this timeless and touching graphic story of renewal from one of Australia's most talented picture-book creators.



A River by Marc Martin

There is a river outside my window. Where will it take me? So begins an imaginary journey from the city to the sea. From factories to farmlands, freeways to forest, each new landscape is explored through stunning illustrations and poetic text from this award-winning picture-book creator.



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Order form

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	SCHOOL YEAR	RRP	QTY	TOTAL
<i>All About Antarctica</i>	Marc Martin	9781761047411	Year 1-6	\$24.99		
<i>Masters of Disguise</i>	Marc Martin	9781760895891	Year 1-6	\$26.99		
<i>A River</i>	Marc Martin	9780143783626	Foundation to Year 2	\$16.99		
<i>A Forest</i>	Marc Martin	9780143506034	Foundation to Year 2	\$16.99		
<i>Lots</i>	Marc Martin	9780670078943	Year 1-6	\$24.99		
TOTAL						

NAME: _____
 SCHOOL: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 STATE: _____
 POSTCODE: _____
 TEL: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 ACCOUNT NO.: _____
 PURCHASE ORDER NO.: _____

PLEASE SEND ORDER FORMS
TO YOUR LOCAL EDUCATION
SUPPLIER.