



# Antarctica or Bust

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Grades: 3-5

Time: 40 Minutes

## Geographic Theme

Place, Human/Environmental Interaction, Regions

## Purpose

The students take on the role of scientists being briefed on a future trip to Antarctica. The briefing will inform them of the land, climate, inhabitants, and rules of visiting this continent.

## Objectives

- The learner will use prior knowledge of Antarctica to "pre-pack" his suitcase.
- The learner will evaluate his prior knowledge through instruction on the land, climate, inhabitants of Antarctica, and the rules for living there.
- The learner will be able to describe living conditions of Antarctica.
- The learner will explain the environmental significance Antarctica has for the rest of the world.

## Materials

- Passport to Antarctica (teacher-made big book)
- Packing survey

- Folders
- Markers
- Construction paper
- Scissors

## Procedures

1. **Initiating activity:** State that the group are scientists that are going to lead various expeditions across Antarctica. The purpose of this session is to brief them on the many features of the continent so they will know what to take on their trip.
2. Give cooperative groups a list of items from which to choose things they think they should take on their expedition. Chart their choices. After the briefing they will be able to alter the list if they learn any new information.
3. **Strategies:** Present information using a teacher made big book called "Passport to Antarctica." This book gives information on the following characteristics of Antarctica:
  - A. Land Features
  - B. Climate
  - C. Inhabitants
  - D. Rules for Visiting

(Throughout the lesson information will be presented vital to their supply list. If they are attentive they will be able to update their choices.)

4. **Culminating Activities:** Ask for changes in their choices and why. Review which items should or could have been included in their supply list.
5. **Evaluation:** Give each student a folder shaped as a suitcase. They need to "pack" their suitcases with 5 items and tell why those items are included. The students may use creativity to show their items. (Write, draw, use magazine pictures etc. on inside of the folder.)

## Packing Survey

1. A Bathing Suit YES/NO
2. An Umbrella YES/NO
3. Snowshoes YES/NO
4. An Inuit/English Dictionary YES/NO
5. A Spanish/English Dictionary YES/NO
6. Insect Repellent YES/NO
7. Polar Bear Guidebook YES/NO
8. A Star Chart YES/NO
9. Aroseol Hair Spray YES/NO
10. Recycling Bins YES/NO



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