

Polar Terms Answer Key

1. Iceberg: A large piece of freshwater ice that has broken off a glacier or ice shelf and floats in the ocean.
2. Polar desert: A very cold region with extremely low moisture where little precipitation falls.
3. Research station: A place where scientists live and study the environment in Antarctica.
4. Ice sheet: A thick layer of glacier ice that covers large areas of land.
5. Pack ice: Loose pieces of floating sea ice that cluster together on the ocean surface.
6. Tundra: A cold, treeless area where only small plants can grow.
7. Crevasse: A deep crack that forms in glacial ice.
8. Antarctic Circle: A major line of latitude located near the bottom of the globe.
9. Ice core: A long cylinder of ice drilled from a glacier or ice sheet to study past climate.
10. Permafrost: Ground that remains frozen for two or more years.

Teacher's Guide

Differentiation Tips

- Provide simplified definitions for students who need extra support and ask them to match them to the correct terms.
- Allow oral responses, scribed answers, or pairs for collaborative work.
- Encourage advanced learners to use each term in a sentence or add an example.

Engagement Ideas

- Begin with a quick mystery word game where students guess the meaning based on clues.
- Show images of icebergs, research stations, tundra, and crevasses before defining the terms.
- Ask students to rank the terms from most familiar to least familiar and discuss their choices.