

Name _____



Southern Ocean Features

Directions: Read each description. Identify the key Southern Ocean feature being described and write its name on the space below each description.

1. This enormous sheet of frozen water extends from Antarctica into the ocean and can break into huge floating pieces.
2. This powerful flow of water circles Antarctica and is the only current on Earth that travels around the planet without stopping.
3. This region is known for large populations of emperor penguins and seals that rely on icy habitats for survival.
4. These towering formations break off from ice shelves and drift through the ocean as massive blocks of freshwater ice.
5. This part of the Southern Ocean is famous for strong winds and fierce waves that challenge even experienced sailors.
6. This vast zone is where cold Southern Ocean waters help regulate Earth's temperature by absorbing heat and carbon.
7. This marine region supports krill, a tiny shrimp-like creature that feeds many ocean animals including whales and penguins.
8. This transition area marks where warmer northern waters meet colder southern waters, creating unique conditions for marine life.
9. This icy habitat forms the foundation for many species and surrounds Antarctica during the coldest months.
10. This wide circular pathway helps move nutrients, heat, and marine species between the major oceans it connects.