

Life of significant people— Scott of the Antarctic Knowledge Mat



Sticky knowledge

Captain Robert Falcon Scott journeyed to The Antarctic, long before their Grandparents were even born.

History Curriculum Concepts:

1. Significance – The consequence of past events on the present
2. Chronology – The order in which events happen
3. Evidence – a range of evidence or information to indicate if a belief is valid – proof of the past.

Captain Robert Falcon Scott got to the South Pole on the 17th of January 1912. A Norwegian Explorer (Roald Amundsen) beat Scott and his companions to The South Pole by 5 weeks. He then embarked on the 2 month journey back to the base, he died 11 miles from base camp.

We compare the expedition of Scott, Amundsen and the subsequent journey of Prince Harry in 2013. We discuss how technology makes things of the past easier and how things in the future could also change things. During the global warming aspect of the topic we learn how the continent is changing and the impact on the rest of the world.

What evidence do we have?

We have photographic evidence as well as newspaper reports of the time. In November 2012 Scott's tent and body was found along with his diary, which documented the final days of the expedition. There is now a museum dedicated to the expedition which is part of the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge which holds many artefacts from the time. Captain Scott's hut is also still standing in Antarctica.

See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUSHFRiYU7c>

What was learned from this expedition?

Scott made several mistakes during his expedition, which led to the ultimate failure of being the first and possibly returning. He did not have the right equipment, clothes or food. He also focussed on too many tasks, studying the penguins and collecting rocks along the way. He perhaps should have learned from the Inuit people of the Arctic Circle, as Amundsen did.

Big 5 Sticky Knowledge questions

1. When did Robert Falcon Scott finally reach The South Pole?
2. How did he get to Antarctica?
3. Did he achieve his goal of arriving there first?
4. What mistakes did he make?
5. How do we know about his last few days? Was it via text message, email or a diary entry?

Key words

Explorer	Expedition
Travel	Challenge
Polar region	Journey
Race	Equipment
Conditions	Evidence
Frostbite	Primary
Companions	Secondary
Exhaustion	Fact / Fiction



School Motto:
Dream Big, Aim High

