

## Summer 1 Year 2 History Overview

### Key facts

Ernest Shackleton is significant because he is widely regarded as one of the most inspirational explorers and leaders of the 20th Century. He was a polar explorer, travelling to Antarctica. In his early life, he was an avid reader with a healthy and active imagination. Although his father wanted him to follow in his footsteps and become a doctor, Shackleton had other ideas. At the age of just 16, he joined the Merchant Navy and, by the time he was 18, he was quickly promoted to First Mate. His first exploration of Antarctica was in 1901 alongside fellow explorer, Robert Scott. Although they came nearer to the South Pole than anyone else at that time, they were forced to halt the expedition due to terrible weather conditions and Shackleton's own poor health. In 1908, he led an expedition to the South Pole on a ship called Nimrod. Despite treacherous weather conditions, they reached within 97 nautical miles (180 km) of the South Pole in 1909. On his return, he was awarded a medal by the Royal Geographical Society along with a knighthood. He was now known as Sir Shackleton. A further exploration, in 1914, is often hailed as Shackleton's greatest success as his ship became trapped. The team had to abandon the ship and were stranded on the ice for several months.

Ernest  
Shackleton

### Brief summary/ overview

Display and **compare** photographs and artefacts.

**Suggest** reasons for and stories behind those items.

**Investigate** newspaper articles and online sources to answer key questions.

**Explain** who he was, where he was going and why.

**Investigate** his journey and present a timeline showing the information.

**Organise** findings from the visit from the polar explorer to demonstrate your knowledge of the Polar regions.

**Demonstrate** knowledge of Shackleton by creating a character profile.

### Prior Knowledge

Communicate historically – using historical language, studying pictures, researching famous people from the past

### Key Vocabulary

Explore, Explorer, Discover, Journey, Challenges, Success, Persevere, Danger, Destroyed, Exploration, Discovery, Expedition, Obstacles, Achievements, Trans-Antarctic, Endurance, Disaster, Disintegrated

### Resources

Pictures to support enquiry

Artefacts from an exploration

Timeline for events

### Cross curricular links/visits

Geography- Places that he visited.