



# Hot and Cold Places: Year 1 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
North Pole	The North Pole is the northernmost place on Earth. When at the North Pole, all directions point south.
South Pole	The South Pole is the southernmost place on Earth. When at the South Pole, all directions point north.
Equator	An imaginary line around the centre of the Earth. It is very hot at the Equator. It divides the Earth into the northern and southern hemispheres.
meerkats	Animals that are often found in dry places like deserts. They belong to the mongoose family.
penguins	A large seabird that cannot fly. Found in the South Pole. There are many types with the most famous probably being the Emperor penguin.
polar bears	A large, white Arctic bear found in the North Pole. They have thick fur and a layer of fat known as blubber that keeps them warm.
desert	A desert is a very dry place that experiences little rain and therefore plants don't grow there. It is difficult to find water in a desert.
hemispheres	A hemisphere is half of the Earth, divided into north and south by the equator. Britain is in the northern hemisphere.
humid	When there is a lot of moisture in the air, it is said to be humid. Hot countries are often very humid.
scorching	To burn slightly or to cause a change in colour because of the heat.
camouflage	When an animals markings helps it to blend in with its environment so it can't be seen easily.

Prior Knowledge Expectations
Know the names of the seasons.
Know that there are hot places in the world.
Know that there are cold places in the world.
<b>Sticky knowledge about history within living memory</b>
Not all deserts are covered by sand. Only one fifth of all deserts are covered with sand.
During the South Pole winter (mid March to mid September) it is dark all the time. During the summer, it is light all the time.
Even though we think they should be, not all deserts are hot. Two of the world's biggest deserts are in the North and South Poles.
Polar bears and penguins are able to keep warm because they have blubber inside their skins.
The largest hot desert in the world is the Sahara and the largest cold desert is Antarctica.
Hot deserts are usually very hot during the day but can get very cold at night. Some hot deserts can freeze at night.
Despite the low temperatures, over 4 million people live in the polar regions.

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Key knowledge
Know the name of the four seasons of the year and know the weather associated with each.
Know where the equator is and point to it on a globe.
Know where the North and South Poles are and point to them on a globe.
Know which animals live close to the equator, North Pole and South Pole.