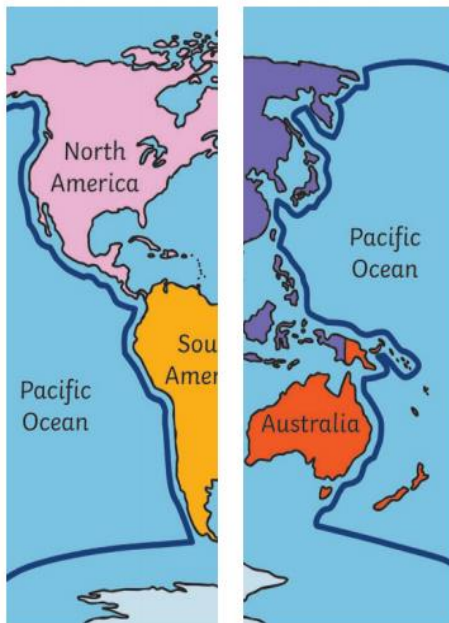


Oceans of the World

An ocean is a large body of salt water. There are five oceans in the world. They cover 71% of the Earth's surface; that is almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of the planet!



Pacific Ocean

The Pacific Ocean is the biggest ocean in the world. The name 'Pacific' means 'peaceful' because the Pacific Ocean is the calmest of the world's oceans. Here you will find the Great Barrier Reef, the world's largest coral reef. You will also find Challenger Deep, the deepest place on Earth. The Pacific Ocean is surrounded by a string of volcanoes called 'the ring of fire'.

Challenger Deep

Challenger Deep is located near the country of Guam. It is more than 10 kilometres deep. That means you could drop Mt Everest into it and the whole mountain would disappear. Only three people have ever visited Challenger Deep. One of them is James Cameron, director of the movie 'Avatar' and 'Titanic'!

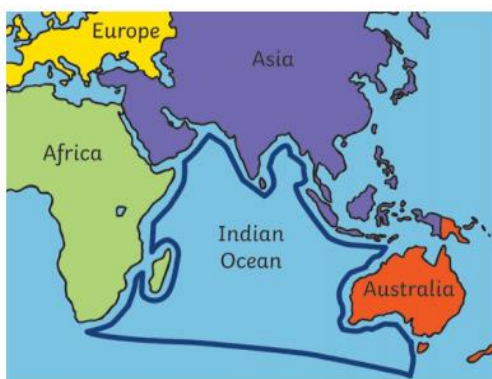
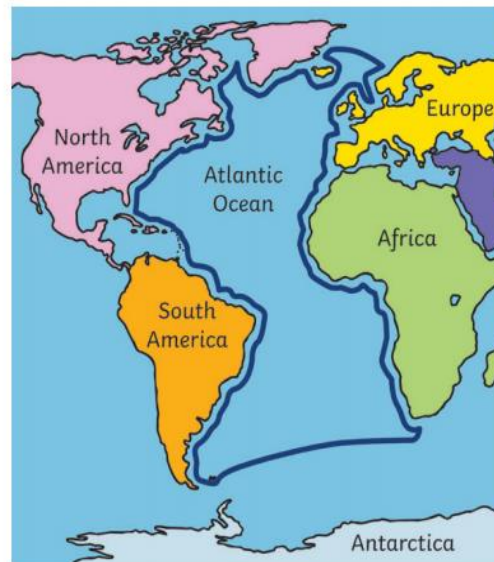


Did You Know?

Humans have only explored 5% of the world's oceans!

Atlantic Ocean

The Atlantic Ocean is the second biggest ocean in the world. The Atlantic Ocean gets its name from the giant Atlas from ancient Greek mythology. It is half the size of the Pacific Ocean. Here you will find the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the longest mountain range in the world, which runs from Iceland to Antarctica.



Indian Ocean

The Indian Ocean is the third biggest ocean in the world. Even still, it is 5 1/2 times bigger than the USA! It is named after the country of India. The Indian Ocean is the youngest of all the oceans.

Here you will also find the largest breeding ground for humpback whales in the world.

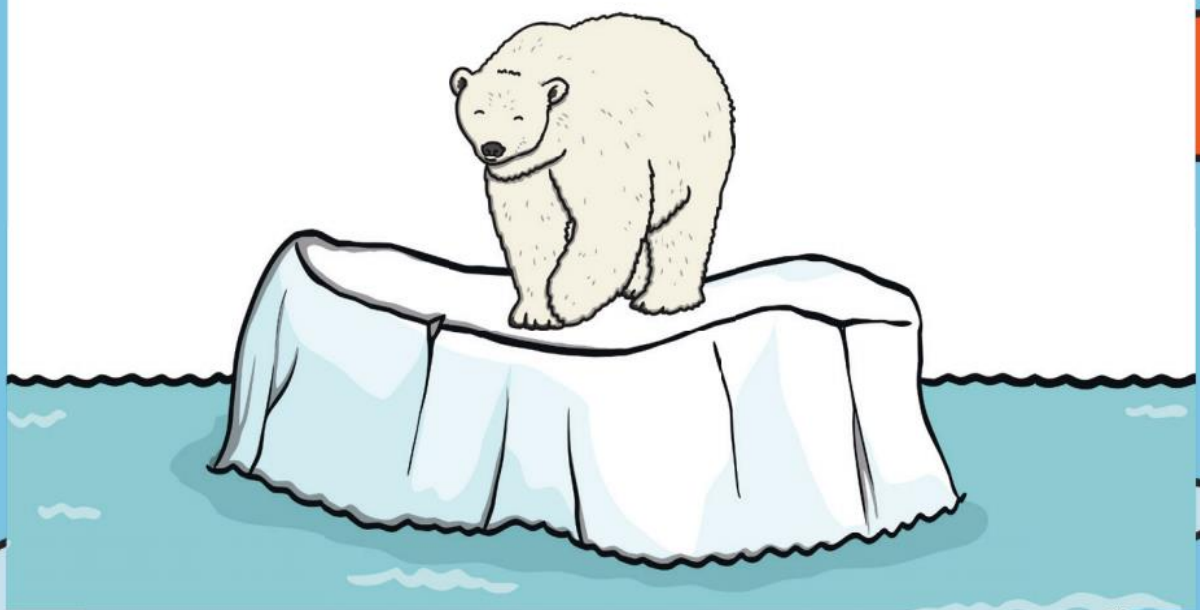
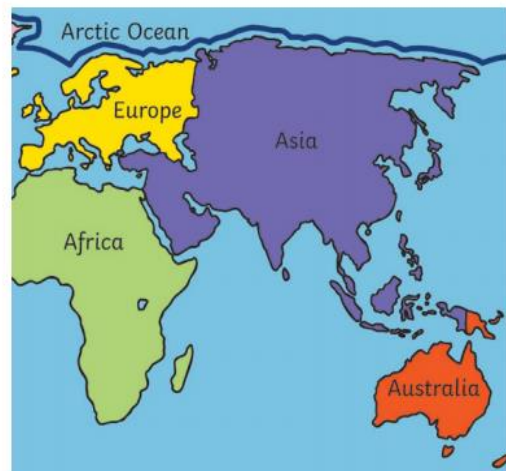


Southern Ocean

The Southern Ocean is the second smallest ocean in the world. It is also known as the Antarctic Ocean. It surrounds Antarctica and is the wildest and coldest ocean in the world. It is home to the emperor penguin and the wandering albatross, the bird with the widest wingspan in the world.

Arctic Ocean

The Arctic Ocean is the smallest ocean in the world. In winter, it freezes over and polar bears live on the ice. However, due to climate change, the ice is slowly shrinking. The Arctic Ocean is also home to walrus and the unicorn-like narwhal.



Questions

1. What is an ocean?

2. In which ocean would you find Challenger Deep?

3. Which large mammal breeds in the Indian Ocean?

4. Which continent is completely surrounded by the Southern Ocean?

5. Why is the ice of the Arctic Ocean shrinking?
