

## Year 6 Explorers Knowledge organiser

7 continents and 5 oceans – A continent is a very large area of land, such as Asia or Africa, that consist of several countries.



There are 257 countries in the world.

Some of these are:

Afghanistan	Botswana
China	Denmark
Egypt	Finland
Greece	Haiti
Italy	Japan
Kenya	Libya
Mexico	Nigeria
Oman	Poland
Qatar	Russia
Singapore	
Trinidad and Tobago	Uganda
Vietnam	
Western Sahara	Yemen
Zimbabwe	

**Mount Everest** – It is the highest mountain on Earth. It is situated on the border between Nepal and Tibet.

**The Matterhorn** – It is situated on the border of Switzerland and Italy.

**Kilimanjaro** – It is situated on the border of Tanzania and Kenya.

**Mount Vinson** – It is situated in Antarctica.

**K2** – It is situated on the border between Pakistan and China.

**Ben Nevis** – It is situated in Scotland.

**Mississippi River** – It is in the United States and North America.

**Ganges** – It is in the Himalayas in India.

**Danube** – It originates in Germany.

**River Nile** – It is 4,132 miles long. It is the longest river in the world and stretches from East Africa to the Mediterranean.

**Amazon River** – It flows through Peru, Bolivia, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Brazil before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean.

## Key Vocabulary

**Latitude** - a geographic coordinate that specifies the north–south position of a point on the Earth's surface.

**Longitude** - the angular distance of a place east or west of the Greenwich meridian.

**Equator** - the Equator is an imaginary line on the surface, equidistant from the North and South Poles, dividing the Earth into Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

**Northern Hemisphere** - The Northern Hemisphere is the half of Earth that is north of the equator.

**Southern Hemisphere** - The Southern Hemisphere is the half of Earth that is south of the equator.

**Expedition** - a journey that is taken by a person or group of people to little known places

**Frostbite** - serious damage to your body, such as your finger or toes, as a result of being very cold.

**Lifeboat** - a small boat that is carried on a ship and used to escape when a vessel is in danger of sinking.

**Navigate** - to find your way using maps or instruments.

**Pemmican** - high energy food made of meat and fat.

**Polar** - near the north or south pole.

**Scurvy** - illness caused by a lack of vitamin C (vitamin C was found in plants and it is too cold for plant to grown in Antarctica).

**Sea ice** - ice that forms when seawater freezes.

**the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn** - are defined as parallels, or lines of latitude encircling the Earth. The **Tropic of Capricorn** lies 23.3 degrees south of the equator while the **Tropic of Cancer** is positioned 23.3 degrees north of the equator.

**Arctic and Antarctic Circle** - The **Arctic Circle** is in the **Arctic** or Northernmost area on our World. The Antarctic **Circle** is in the Antarctic or Southernmost area of or World.

**time zones** - A time zone is a region of the globe that observes a uniform **standard time** for legal, commercial, and social purposes.



### **Who was Columbus?**

Columbus was an explorer. In 1492, he sailed from Europe to America. He and his sailors crossed the Atlantic Ocean, not knowing where they would land.

### **When did he live?**

Christopher Columbus was born in 1451. It was a time of new ideas and discoveries in Europe. We call this time the Renaissance - a word that means 'rebirth'.

### **What did Columbus do?**

Columbus did not 'discover' America. There were many people already living there. Vikings from Europe had landed in America 500 years before. But Columbus did not know that.

### **On his voyage:**

#### **A New World**

Columbus sailed on to Cuba and Hispaniola. **Native Americans** Columbus called them 'Indians', because he thought he'd landed in 'the Indies' (Asia). **Shipwreck**

On Christmas night 1492 the Santa Maria was wrecked. Columbus left 40 men behind. **Second voyage** Columbus soon went back to rescue his men. This time, he took 17 ships. But all the men left behind were dead.

#### **How did Columbus die?**

Columbus sailed to America for a fourth time in 1502. He was still hoping to land in China. This time he explored Central America. His ships were too leaky to sail home, so he had to wait a year before being rescued. When Columbus got back to Spain, he was a sick man. He died in 1506.

Ernest Shackleton was a great British explorer.

He travelled to Antarctica, which is the coldest continent on Earth, four times.

Shackleton first sailed to Antarctica on a ship called Discovery.

In 1914, Shackleton wanted to become the first person to cross the continent of Antarctica.

His ship, the endurance, was trapped by sea ice and soon afterwards it sank completely.

Shackleton and his crew had to find somewhere safer to stay so they travelled in life boats to Elephant Island, which took a week to get to.

There was no chance of being rescued as no one knew where they were. No ships passed nearby.

Shackleton and five friends sailed the rough seas in a little boat called the James Caird to find help. The others stayed behind living in upside-down lifeboats. Eventually, they found help and Shackleton became remembered for saving his crew mates.

