



Antarctica Day Flags – From the Classroom to Antarctica

Aims:

- To teach about Antarctica as a place on our planet where nations work together sharing their scientific research to peacefully manage 10% of the earth
- To create flag designs for Antarctica, reflecting student's interests and inspiration
- To connect classroom activities with scientists and educators in Antarctica

Materials:

Ordinary printer paper (easy for scanning) (A4 210 x297mm) (USA 8"x11")
 Different shades of markers and pens* (no glare when being photographed or scanned)
 Associated PowerPoint (or PDF) as a teaching tool <http://www.ourspaces.org.uk>
 Camera (preferred) or scanner– so images can be created from the student drawings
 Dropbox or email-student images to jberkman@ourspaces.org.uk by November 1st 2015.

Concept to teach:

This activity will increase student's global awareness of international cooperation through the Antarctic Treaty System of 50 nations studying climate and marine life in the Southern Ocean. Students' flags from around the world can come together in Antarctica.

The Basics:

- Antarctica is one of earth's 7 continents located in the southern ocean.
- It is largely covered by ice and the animals' home is in the ocean.
- The 1959 Antarctic Treaty applies to the Antarctic continent and the surrounding Southern Ocean to 60 degrees South Latitude, ~ 10% of earth.
- All territorial claims to Antarctica were set aside by the Antarctic Treaty.
- Antarctica does not have a flag as it is not owned by a single country.
- There are research stations representing many nations around the continent.
- Scientists study global climate and the marine ecosystem, working together in teams they share information, and communicate their findings globally.
- Penguins, whales, seals, fish, scallops, and krill live there and are part of the Antarctic Marine Ecosystem (see power point presentation).

Activity:

1. Students are asked to design flags drawing images that are inspired by Antarctica - the ice & climate, the marine life, and/or the people from many nations working together. Include a caption or description on back.
2. The drawings are collected, 5 representative flags per class are selected and made into digital images (photographed with a digital camera (**jpg**) preferred or scanned on a photocopy machine). Next send an e-mail to jberkman@ourspaces.org.uk by November 1st 2015. She will invite you to place them in a Dropbox or if necessary attach to an e-mail BUT files must be smaller than 10MB max size limit per e-mail.
3. The images received from around the world for Antarctica Day will hitch a ride with various researchers to be displayed in Antarctica on Antarctica Day. An e-mail will be sent back to the school with a message. The events will be shared through Our Spaces, UKPN and APECS websites.
4. All of the flags can be displayed in the classroom or school hallway arranged as a composite banner celebrating Antarctica Day 2015.

