

Exploring Antarctica—The Present

Integration: Social Studies; Geography

Grade Levels: 4-6

Time: 1 class period

Materials:

- Map of Antarctica
- World map
- Map of the Expedition route
- *Who Is Ann Bancroft?* handout
- *Who Is Liv Arnesen?* handout
- *What Is the Route of the Bancroft Arnesen Expedition?* handout
- *A Typical Day on the Ice* handout

Objectives:

Students will:

1. Explain the Bancroft Arnesen Expedition and its specifics.
2. Synthesize information and use it to teach other students.

Lesson:

1. Ask students to define what they think of when they hear the word “adventure.”
2. Tell students that in November 2000 Ann Bancroft and Liv Arnesen will set out on an adventure that will take them across Antarctica.
 - a. Ann and Liv are present-day explorers.
 - b. They will become the first all-women’s team to ski across Antarctica.
 - c. They have named their adventure the Bancroft Arnesen Expedition.

Jigsaw Activity

3. Explain to students that each of them will become an expert on a particular part of the Bancroft Arnesen Expedition.
4. Divide students into groups and give directions for the Antarctic Jigsaw activity. Give each group a map of the Expedition route.
 - a. Divide the students into four groups and give each group a number (1-4). Tell students this is their “home” group.

- b. While they are sitting in home groups, divide the students into four new groups (A, B, C, D), the “expert” groups.
- c. Have each participant sit with their expert group and give one reading to each group:
 - *Who Is Ann Bancroft?*
 - *Who Is Liv Arnesen?*
 - *What Is the Route of the Bancroft Arnesen Expedition?*
 - *A Typical Day on the Ice*
- d. In the expert group, students should read the material, share their knowledge, and discuss the information. Allow approximately 10 minutes for reading and discussing.
- e. Circulate from group to group to ensure that students are discussing the material and to answer questions.
- f. After the allotted time, have students return to their home group.
- g. Tell students that now they have become experts on their subject. They should share the new information with the members of their home groups.
- h. Allot 5-10 minutes for each expert to discuss and report to their home group.

Note: Because the students will be discussing different topics, it is important to divide the students so that each home group has at least one member of each expert group.

Full group

5. Initiate a discussion about the information to ensure that all topics have been covered in each group, that all students understand, and so that students have a chance to respond to the information.
6. Ask students to name other types of expeditions and allow them time to discuss if they would be interested in participating in these adventures.

EXTENSION:

- Have students, individually or in groups, research the Bancroft Arnesen Expedition further at www.yourexpedition.com. Students will create a report and present it to the class.
- Have students, individually or in groups, research other expeditions to Antarctica, Mt. Everest, etc. Students will create a report and present it to the class.
- Have students, individually or in groups, research the accomplishments of a famous woman. Students will create a report and present it to the class.

Assessment:

Teachers will assess:

1. Student’s ability to work cooperatively.
2. Student’s ability to explain the Bancroft Arnesen Expedition.