

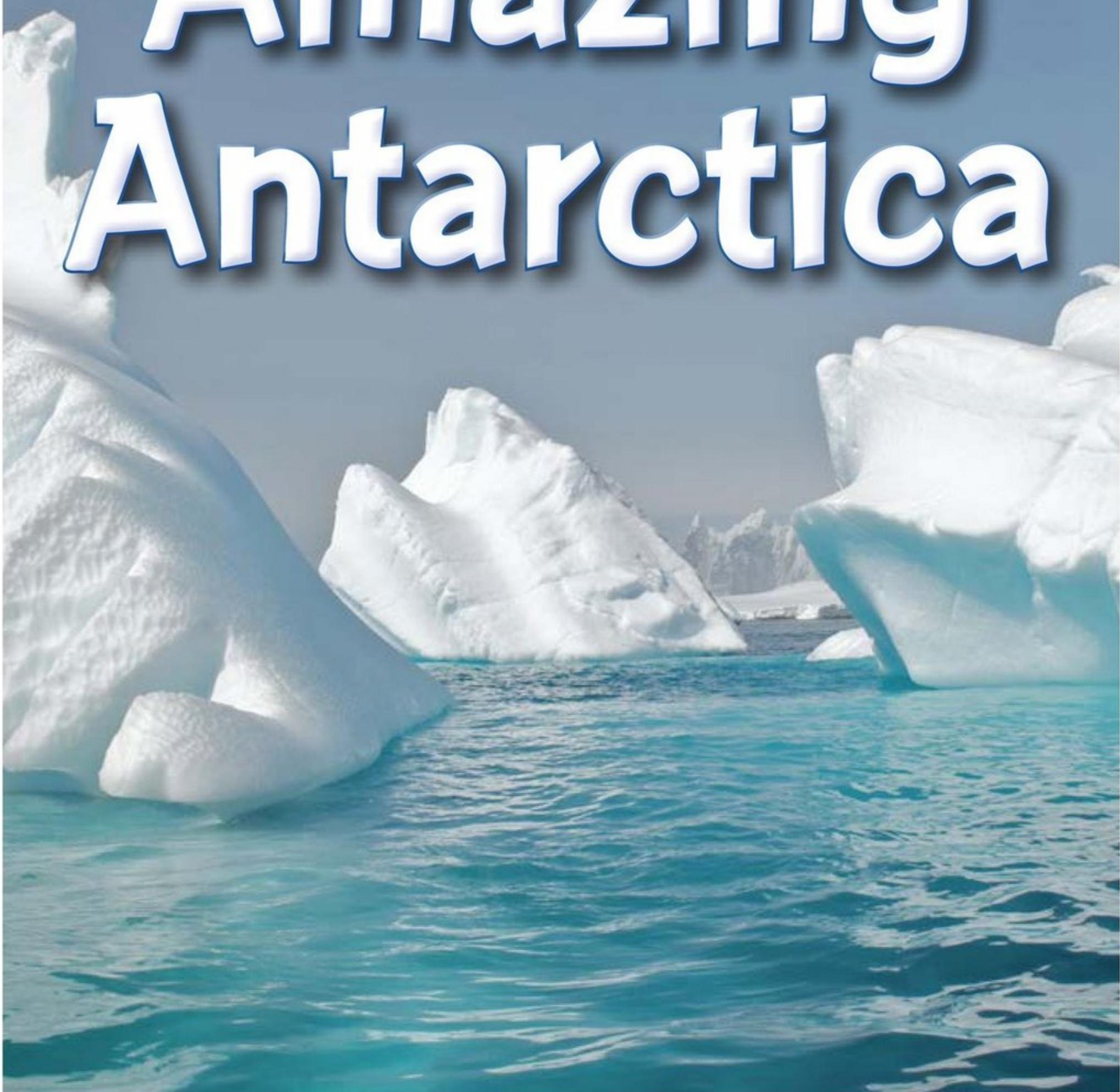
LEVELED BOOK • J

Amazing Antarctica

MULTI
LEVEL
J•M•P

Written by Sean P. McCollum

Amazing Antarctica



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Focus Question

How does Antarctica compare
to other continents?

Words to Know

continents

globe

dangerous

protect

frozen

scientists

Title page: Giant icebergs can be found throughout the waters of Antarctica.

Page 3: Tourists take a boat to see one of Antarctica's many icebergs.

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The Seven Continents



- ① North America
- ② South America
- ③ Europe
- ④ Africa
- ⑤ Asia
- ⑥ Australia
- ⑦ Antarctica

The Seventh Continent

Give a **globe** a spin.

On it you can easily find

six **continents**.

Now look at the bottom

of the globe.

There you will find continent
number seven: Antarctica.



In February 1915, the ship of British explorer Ernest Shackleton became stuck in ice.

People did not find Antarctica until about two hundred years ago. Since then, we have learned a lot about this amazing place.

Antarctica



SOUTH ATLANTIC
OCEAN

Tallest mountain
on Antarctica

• South Pole

SOUTH PACIFIC
OCEAN

Floating piece of ice
the size of France

INDIAN
OCEAN

0 500 1000 1500 2000 km
0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 mi.

Antarctica is the coldest continent.

It is also the continent with the
strongest winds.

Less rain and snow fall in Antarctica
than in any other continent.



An ice shelf is a floating piece of ice connected to land.

Freezing Antarctica

Water covers most of Earth.

Almost all of it is salt water.

Most of the fresh water on Earth
is **frozen** in the ice in Antarctica.

Snow does not melt during the cold
summers there.

The ice builds up over many years.



Emperor penguins, the largest penguins in the world, live in Antarctica.

Life on and Around Antarctica

The freezing weather in Antarctica makes it a **dangerous** place to live.



Antarctic hair grass grows in rocky places.

Most plants and animals can be found near the coasts or in the sea. There are no trees, but there are other plants, such as moss.



A leopard seal yawns on a piece of ice.

Penguins and seals are some of the larger animals in the icy waters of Antarctica.

Wowser!

A male emperor penguin has a big job when it comes to a baby penguin. It takes care of an egg for two months. During that time, it does not eat. Once the mother comes back, she feeds the chick.





Scientists study an emperor penguin chick. A million of its kind live in Antarctica.

A Playground for Scientists

People have taken steps to make sure that **scientists** can study in Antarctica.

Do You Know?

No country is in charge of Antarctica. Many countries signed a special agreement in 1961 that does not allow wars to happen in Antarctica.



When blizzards happen in Antarctica, scientists at Australia's Mawson Station stay indoors. They can read or watch movies.

Many countries send scientists
to study in Antarctica.

Some work there all year, even
during the cold winter.

Others work only in summer.



These scientists drill into Antarctica's ice to learn what the weather was like there long ago.

Many kinds of scientists come

to Antarctica.

They study animals, ice,

and many other things.



Most people visit Antarctica during its summer months, between November and March.

Thousands of visitors also come to learn about Antarctica each year.



Colorful clouds fill the sky above Antarctica.

Conclusion

People do not know a lot about Antarctica.

The cold, ice, wind, and rough seas make it a difficult place to visit.

However, people around the world know how important it is to **protect** and study Antarctica.

Glossary

continents (n.)	the main sections of land on Earth, including Africa, South America, Asia, Europe, North America, Australia, and Antarctica (p. 4)
dangerous (adj.)	able or likely to cause harm (p. 8)
frozen (adj.)	turned into ice as a result of very cold temperatures (p. 7)
globe (n.)	a ball-shaped map of the world (p. 4)
protect (v.)	to keep from harm or danger (p. 15)
scientists (n.)	people who work in one or more areas of science (p. 11)

Amazing Antarctica

A Reading A-Z Level J Leveled Book

Word Count: 271

Connections

Writing

Pretend you are a scientist studying Antarctica.

Use the facts in the book to write a journal entry about what you see and do in a day.

Science

Learn more about emperor penguins.

Make a poster about them that includes words and pictures.

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