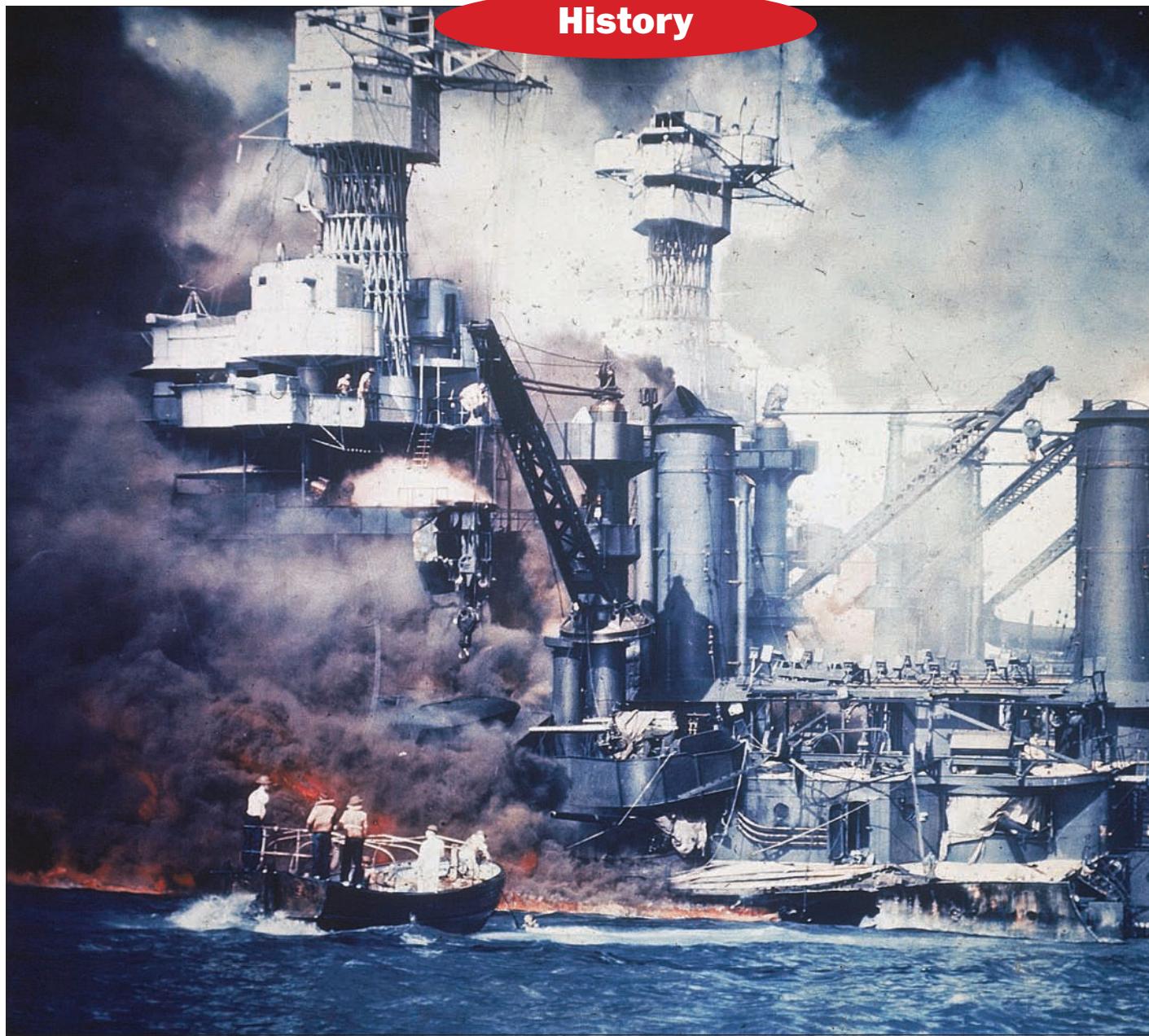


Pearl Harbor


History


ASSOCIATED PRESS

A small boat rescues a USS West Virginia crew member from the water after the Dec. 7, 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor.

The surprise was complete. The attacking planes came in two waves; the first hit its target at 7:53 a.m., the second at 8:55. By 9:55 it was all over. By 1 p.m. the carriers that launched the planes from 274 miles off the coast of Oahu were heading back to Japan.

Behind them they left chaos, 2,403 dead, 188 destroyed planes and a crippled Pacific Fleet that included eight damaged or destroyed battleships. In one stroke the Japanese action silenced the debate that had divided Americans ever since the German defeat of France left England alone in the fight against the Nazi terror.

Approximately three hours later, Japanese planes began a day-long attack on American facilities in the Philippines. (Because the islands are located across the International Dateline, the local Philippine time was just after 5 a.m. on Dec. 8.) Farther to the west, the Japanese struck at Hong Kong, Malaysia and Thailand in a coordinated attempt to use surprise in order to inflict as much damage as quickly as possible to strategic targets.

Although stunned by the attack at Pearl Harbor, the Pacific Fleet's aircraft carriers, submarines and, most importantly, its fuel oil storage facilities emerged unscathed. These assets formed the foundation for the American response that led to victory at the Battle of Midway the following June and ultimately to the total destruction of the Japanese Empire four years later.



MOUNTAIN AMERICA
CREDIT UNION



Holiday spending tips

The holidays can be an expensive time of year, and the financial strain can be especially hard on young people. However, by following some money-saving strategies and staying on top of your finances, there's no reason you can't celebrate along with family and friends this holiday season.

◆ **Budget:** Draft a budget that takes into account all the costs of gift purchasing.
◆ **List:** Once you have an idea of how much you can spend, decide who will be on your gift list. When your list is finalized, determine how much money can spend on each person.

◆ **Payment:** When possible, pay with cash. Withdraw money from your bank account and limit yourself to help keep track of what you're spending.

◆ **Crafting:** For the more artistically inclined, making your gifts can be a fun, easy and creative way to save money on holiday costs.

◆ **E-cards:** In the same vein as crafting, consider creating personalized greeting cards with pictures and graphics.

◆ **Food:** Another option is baking treats for the people on your gift list. Holiday cookies, cakes, pies and brownies are always popular.

◆ **Travel:** Besides gifts, the holidays can often mean travel expenses. Crisscrossing the country to visit family and friends can become costly, so take time to plan out your trip to help cut expenses considerably.

The attack

INTERESTING FACTS

- Every president since Franklin D. Roosevelt has visited the USS Arizona Memorial site.
- The Japanese also used submarines, including smaller ones called midget submarines, in the attack.
- The entire attack lasted around 110 minutes.
- The Japanese attacked on a Sunday morning because they thought the U.S. soldiers would be less alert at that time.



The battleship USS Arizona belches smoke as it topples over into the sea during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

AP

BEFORE THE ATTACK

World War II had been raging in Europe and Asia for two years, but the United States had not entered the war. The Empire of Japan was trying to take over much of Asia.

The United States, which had important political and economic interests in East Asia, was alarmed by these Japanese moves. The U.S. increased military and financial aid to China, embarked on a program of strengthening its military power in the Pacific, and cut off the shipment of oil and other raw materials to Japan.

Japan was worried about the U.S. Navy in Hawaii. They decided to strike in order to prevent the United States from attacking them.

The Japanese thought that if they took out the war ships in Pearl Harbor, then the United States Navy would be crippled and would never attack. However, they were mistaken and the attack on Pearl Harbor had just the opposite result. The U.S. declared war the next day.

THE ATTACK

Hundreds of Japanese fighter planes and bombers flew to Pearl Harbor and attacked. The bombers dropped bombs and torpedoes on the war ships, while the fighter planes attacked the U.S. fighter planes on the ground so they could not take off and fight back. There were two waves of attacks and by the end of the second wave a number of U.S. ships were destroyed.

THE NUMBERS

Although the Japanese inflicted considerable damage to the U.S. Navy, they did not cripple it. They damaged many ships including warships, destroyers, and cruisers. They also destroyed a lot of the fighter planes and aircraft at the base. However, all of the U.S. ships but three (the Arizona, the Utah, and the Oklahoma) were able to be recovered and were used later during the war.

The biggest U.S. loss was the

sinking of the USS Arizona. More than 1,100 U.S. military personnel died when the Arizona sunk.

LOSSES

PERSONNEL KILLED

	UNITED STATES	JAPAN
Navy	1998	64
Marine Corps	109	
Army	233	
Civilian	48	

PERSONNEL WOUNDED

Navy	710	Unknown
Marine Corps	69	
Army	364	
Civilian	35	

SHIPS

Sunk or beached *	12	5
Damaged	9	

AIRCRAFT

Destroyed	164	29
Damaged	159	74

*All U.S. ships, except the USS Arizona, the USS Utah, and the USS Oklahoma, were salvaged and later saw action.

*Figures are subject to change according to new evidence.
SOURCE: NPS

Declaring war

The Presidential Address to Congress of Dec. 8, 1941 (known as the Infamy Speech or Day of Infamy Speech) was delivered at 12:30 p.m. that day to a Joint Session of Congress by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt, one day after the Empire of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor Naval Base, Hawaii. The name derives from the first line of the speech: Roosevelt describing the previous day as "a date which will live in infamy."

Within an hour of the speech, Congress passed a formal declaration of war against Japan and officially brought the U.S. into World War II. The address is regarded as one of the most famous American political speeches of the 20th century.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signing the declaration of war against Japan, in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The speech

Yesterday, December 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with that nation, and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with its government and its emperor looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific. Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in Oahu, the Japanese ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to the secretary of state a formal reply to a recent American message. While this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time the Japanese government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian Islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. Very many American lives have been lost. In addition, American ships have been reported torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Yesterday the Japanese government also launched an attack against Malaya.

Last night Japanese forces attacked Hong Kong.

Last night Japanese forces attacked

Guam.

Last night Japanese forces attacked the Philippine Islands.

Last night Japanese forces attacked Wake Island.

This morning the Japanese attacked Midway Island.

Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday speak for themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and well understand the implication to the very life and safety of our nation.

As commander in chief of the Army and Navy I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense. Always will we remember the character of the onslaught against us.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

32ND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
1933-1945

Party: Democrat
Age at inauguration: 51
Born: Jan. 30, 1882 in Hyde Park, New York
Died: April 12, 1945 in Warm Springs, Georgia
Married: Anna Eleanor Roosevelt
Children: Anna, James, Elliot, Franklin, John, and a son who died young
Nickname: FDR

President Roosevelt is most known for leading the United States and the Allied Powers against the Axis Powers of Germany and Japan during World War II. He also led the country during the Great Depression and instituted the New Deal which included programs such as Social Security and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Roosevelt was elected to president for four terms. This is two more terms than any other president.

In 1940, Roosevelt was elected to his third term as president. World War II had broken out in Europe and Roosevelt promised that he would do what he could to keep the U.S. out of the war. However, on Dec. 7, 1941 Japan bombed the U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor. Roosevelt had no choice but to declare war.

President Theodore Roosevelt was Franklin's fifth cousin and uncle to his wife Eleanor.

He met President Grover Cleveland when he was 5-years-old. Cleveland said "I am making a wish for you. It is that you may never become president of the United States."

He was the first president to appear on television during a 1939 broadcast from the World's Fair.

During World War II, Roosevelt spoke to the American people over the radio in a series of talks called the "fireside chats."

One of his famous quotes is "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

He was posing for a portrait when he had a fatal stroke. His last words were "I have a terrible headache."

Extra extra

Imagine you are a newspaper editor or reporter responsible for writing stories and captions for each photograph to be published the following day. Read through the Deseret News to see how professional newspapers display and construct their headlines and write their stories.

Work in groups to report the events of December 7, 1941, by creating the front page of a newspaper on the day after the attack.

- Come up with a name for your newspaper. (i.e. Deseret News)

- Write a story reporting the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Consider these questions when writing your story:

What were the motives behind the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor?

More specifically, why did they chose Pearl Harbor? Why not Philippines, or mainland United States?

What did the Japanese do right after they attacked Pearl Harbor? What was their ultimate goal?

Do you think the Japanese accomplished their goals through the attack on Pearl Harbor?

- Be sure to have a “powerful” headline, either through an enlarged font or by the words being used.

- Find images from Pearl Harbor online and print them out. Compare and contrast the photographs and discuss the following questions:

Can you describe what is happening in the photographs?

What do these photographs illustrate?

If you were at home reading the newspaper the day after Pearl Harbor was attacked, upon seeing these photographs, what would your reaction be? Would you be angry? Sad? Joyful? Who would you be thinking of?

Can you put the photos in the order of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor?

- Caption all photos.

- Do not try to cram every piece of information about Pearl Harbor into a news story, but instead be selective.

- Be sure that the layout of your front page is systematic and easy to understand.

SOURCES: <http://www.history.navy.mil>, www.eyewitnesshistory.com/pearl.htm



Newspapers go on sale on Dec. 7, 1941 in Times Square in New York City, announcing that Japan has attacked U.S. military bases in the Pacific.



The shattered wreckage of American planes bombed by the Japanese in their attack on Pearl Harbor is strewn on Hickam Field, Dec. 7, 1941.



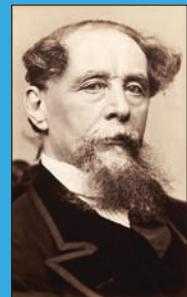
Oil streams from Battleship Row adjacent to Ford Island in Pearl Harbor following the Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941



DID YOU KNOW?



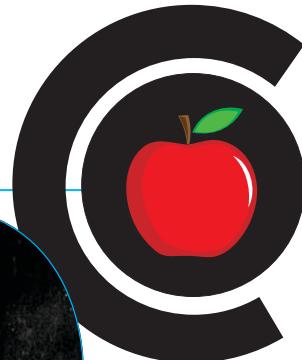
Charles Dickens, author of “A Christmas Carol,” truly believed that a good education could provide a way to a better life. At only 12 years old, Charles had to quit school for a while and



work all day in a rat-infested warehouse to help his family make money. He walked 5 miles to get to work where he would endlessly wrap, tie and paste labels onto jars of black boot polish for 10 hours. This childhood experience became a major influence of his work.

As an adult, Charles became appalled by the worsening conditions in which poor children were being forced to live in. Children as young as three years old worked in factories, mines, shipyards and construction businesses. They wore ragged clothing and rarely had shoes, which made them unable to attend school.

Charles Dickens joined the Ragged Schools Union which provided free education, food, clothing and lodging for poor children in London. This inspired him to write “A Christmas Carol” which he finished in six weeks. Can you name another book written by Charles Dickens?



Deseret News

CONNECT 123

Your Family • Community • World



Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen became the first man to reach the South Pole on Dec. 14, 1911.

Amundsen next planned an expedition to reach the North Pole. However, when he heard that Robert Peary claimed to have already reached the North Pole, he made last-minute plans and decided to pursue the South Pole. He kept this a secret until the last minute. At the time, the South Pole was considered to be the last great, undiscovered territory.

In the early 1900s, there was a race to see who could get to the South Pole first. Amundsen beat his rival, British explorer Robert Falcon Scott, by five weeks.

On Jan. 14, 1911, Amundsen's ship, the Fram, arrived at the Bay of Whales in Antarctica. They set up camp there and prepared for the trip to the South Pole. Amundsen made sure that the dogs were well-fed. One of the crew, a carpenter named Olav Bjaaland, redesigned the sleds they would use. He lowered the weight from 195 pounds to 50 pounds. This lower weight would be crucial in saving energy during the trip.

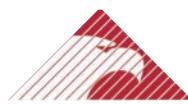
They set out to reach the South Pole 10 months after arriving on Antarctica on Oct. 20. There were five men, 52 dogs and four sleds. His success in reaching the South Pole was aided by careful planning. He took a preliminary trip to drop food and supplies along the first part of his route. His use of sled dogs

South Pole

A GREAT EXPEDITION



EXPLORATION



MOUNTAIN AMERICA
CREDIT UNION



Holiday volunteer opportunities for teens

The spread of holiday cheer is usually thought of in terms of gift-giving and spending time with family and loved ones. It's a time of merriment and gratitude — one highlighted by people's generosity and thoughtfulness. Instead of limiting your giving to those in your immediate vicinity or even those you know, consider one of the countless ways to give back to your community this holiday season.

◆ Visit community centers: Local community centers are often looking for additional help to support an influx of activity when kids are out of school. Take a few hours out of your day to help at the local neighborhood recreational center or a Boys & Girls Club.

◆ Sponsor a family in need: Talk to your parents or a group of friends about being matched up with a family who needs assistance during the holiday season.

◆ Help the homeless: Many in our community are less fortunate and suffer from hunger and a lack of adequate housing. Offer help by serving at a homeless shelter.

◆ Provide a meal: Volunteer at a local shelter or soup kitchen as a simple way to contribute to the community and help someone in need.

◆ Visit a senior center: Many senior adults live in nursing homes and never receive visitors. What better time to bring a sense of family and community to someone who may feel alone than during the holiday season?

Waddle through the snow,
Penguins slide on the cold ice,
Watch out for that whale

I always wonder:
Since penguins are flightless birds,
Are those wings? Flippers?



Arctic wildlife

PENGUINS

Penguins are birds that cannot fly, but they swim very well and spend most of their lives in the sea. Penguins live on pack ice and in the oceans around Antarctica. They breed on the land or ice surfaces along the coast and on islands. All penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere

Most of the animals of Antarctica live on the edge and coast or in the water surrounding the continent. There are no land-based vertebrate animals in Antarctica.

All the vertebrates there are dependent on the sea for feeding or are migratory and leave the continent when the winter arrives. The largest truly Antarctic land animals therefore are invertebrates only a few millimeters in size!

The oceans surrounding the continent, on the other hand, are filled with all kinds of animals. This includes whales, seals, penguins and other birds.

Large numbers of whales feed on the rich marine life, especially krill. The entire area around Antarctica has been declared an international whale sanctuary.

SOME PENGUIN FACTS:

- ◆ Penguins eat in the ocean. They eat fish, crustaceans (like krill, etc.), and squid.
- ◆ To withstand the harsh conditions of the Antarctic, their bodies are insulated by a thick layer of blubber and a dense network of waterproof plumage.
- ◆ Some species can reach depths of 1,000 feet or more and stay submerged for up to 25 minutes, though most prefer shorter, shallower dives.
- ◆ Of the 17 species of penguins, only four breed on the Antarctic continent itself: the Adelie, the Emperor, the Chinstrap and the Gentoo penguins.
- ◆ The Emperor Penguin is the largest penguin. It is up to 3.7 feet tall and weighs up to 65 pounds.
- ◆ Penguins generally breed in large, dense colonies called "rookeries," some with 180,000 or more birds. The sights, smells and noise of one of these huge colonies are unforgettable.
- ◆ Natural enemies of the penguin include seals, killer whales, and, in the case of young chicks and eggs, several species of seabirds.

Activity

Think of words that describe the Antarctic, penguins or other things associated with the South Pole.

Write a haiku using the words. (Note: A haiku consists of three lines – the first with five syllables, the second seven and the last five again.) Check out the examples on this page.



The yin-yang of polar sea ice

■ BY TONY PHILLIPS
NASA SCIENCE

The world is getting warmer. It comes as no surprise, therefore, when researchers announce as they did this past September that Arctic sea ice extent is still below normal, continuing a years-long downward trend, covering less and less of the north polar seas with a frozen crust. On the heels of that announcement, came another, a little more puzzling. While Arctic sea ice was melting, Antarctic sea ice was at an all-time high. In 2014, sea ice surrounding Antarctica covered more of the southern oceans than it has since satellite record began in the late 1970s.

Is this also a sign of global warming? "There is no doubt that climate change is real," says Walt Meier of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. "The two poles are just responding in their own unique way to the same global phenomenon."

He points out that Earth, taken as a whole, is losing sea ice. According to satellite measurements from NASA and the National Snow and Ice Data Center, the Arctic has lost an average of 20,800 square miles of sea ice a year since the late 70s. Meanwhile, the Antarctic has gained an average of 7,300 square miles per year — not enough to balance losses at the other end of the planet.

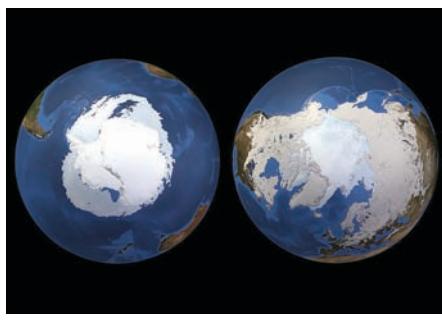
But why do the Arctic and Antarctic behave in different ways?

"The increase we've seen in Antarctic sea ice is a little bit of a mystery," allows Meier. "We're still trying to figure out how a warmer global climate leads to



MICHAEL STUDINGER

A pressure ridge forms on the sea ice near Scott Base in Antarctica. These form when separate ice floes collide and pile up on each other. Lenticular



NASA

This image from December 2010 shows how the Arctic and Antarctic sea ice appear to be responding differently to climate change.

these regional increases in ice cover."

The culprit could be weather. Climate change is altering weather patterns around the planet, and one of those changes is an increase in windiness around the continent of Antarctica. Cold air blows from the ice-covered continent out over the sea, freezing the waters and pushing sea ice outward to cover record-setting areas.

"That's one theory," says Meier. "I think that winds are definitely playing a substantial role. But other factors could be at work, too." For instance, he points

out that glaciers melting around the edges of the continent could, ironically, produce more ice in the surrounding ocean. "Fresh meltwater from glaciers is easier to freeze than briny seawater," he explains.

Snowfall could be important, too. Snow landing on thin sea ice can weigh the ice down and push it just below the water. Cold ocean water seeps up through the ice and floods the snow — leading to a slushy mixture that freezes and thickens the sea ice.

Some scientists feel that these processes could simply be due to the natural variations in the Antarctic region's climate. While it is clear that global warming is playing a significant role in the loss of Arctic sea ice, the trend in the Antarctic is small enough that it could be explained simply due to natural variations in the region's climate. "Ultimately," says Meier, "we expect that continued warming will take its toll, and even Antarctic sea ice will begin to decline."

What we are seeing, he suggests, is the quirky regional way Earth responds to a global stimulus. Earth's climate system is complex, and climate change will continue to have fascinatingly unpredictable consequences in the years ahead.



Both the Arctic (North Pole) and the Antarctic (South Pole) are cold because they don't get any direct sunlight. The Sun is always low on the horizon, even in the middle of summer. In winter, the Sun is so far below the horizon that it doesn't come up at all for months at a time. So the days are just like the nights—cold and dark.

Even though the North Pole and South Pole are "polar opposites," they both get the same amount of sunlight. But the South Pole is a lot colder than the North Pole. Why? Well, the Poles are polar opposites in other ways too.

Which pole is colder? REALLY COLD, OR REALLY, REALLY COLD?

The Arctic is ocean surrounded by land. The Antarctic is land surrounded by ocean.

The ocean under the Arctic ice is cold, but still warmer than the ice! So the ocean warms the air a bit.

Antarctica is dry—and high. Under the ice and snow is land, not ocean. And it's got mountains. The average elevation of Antarctica is about 7,500 feet (2.3 km). And the higher you go, the colder it gets.

At the end of September 2012, the Arctic ice was

TIME OF YEAR	AVERAGE TEMPERATURE	
	NORTH POLE	SOUTH POLE
Summer	32° F	-18° F
Winter	-40° F	-76° F

the smallest on record. If the ice were on a diet, we would say that it was very successful. But, just as with people on diets, shrinking too much is not healthy.

The Arctic ice is shrinking because the ocean under the ice is warming. The warming ocean means Earth's climate is getting warmer.

The Antarctic's climate is also warming, but not as fast, because it is less affected by the warming ocean.

Both the Arctic and the Antarctic are doing pretty much what climate scientists have predicted. We need to listen to them about other things they predict.

FUN FACTS

◆ Antarctica is the coldest, windiest and driest place on Earth.

◆ Antarctica has no native population or permanent residents, but there are a number of researchers and explorers who stay for extended periods.

◆ The South Pole has a desert climate, almost never receiving any precipitation. Air humidity is near zero. However, high winds can cause the blowing of snowfall, and the accumulation of snow amounts to about 20 centimeters per year.

◆ It almost never gets above 0° C in Antarctica and the highest recorded temperature at the South Pole is 7° F or -13.8° C.

◆ The world's lowest temperature of -128 degrees F was recorded at the Russia Vostok Station in Antarctica.

◆ The continental ice sheet of Antarctica contains about 7 million miles of ice, 90 percent of the world's total.

◆ Only 2 percent of Antarctica's land is not covered in ice. The weight of all this ice is so enormous that the continent buried beneath it would rise to an average altitude of 3,280 feet if the ice sheet were removed.

◆ Due to its ice cap, Antarctica has the highest continent average, approximately 2,300 meters above sea level.

◆ During the South Pole Winter (late March to late September) it is dark all the time.

◆ In the summer, it is light 24 hours a day, although the sun is very low in the sky.

southpoleforkids.ca

Word jumble

Can you unjumble the letters in the words to the right to make the names of the three Australian Antarctic stations and the two Subantarctic islands?

1. SOMWAN

2. EARDG

3. VISAD

4. SEYAC

5. CAQUMRIAЕ

WORD JUMBLE: 1. MAWSON, 2. MACQUARIE
3. HERD, 4. DAVIS, 5. CASEY.

EXPEDITION FROM PAGE 1

to carry supplies also helped.

At first they traveled quickly, but soon they had to pass over mountains and avoid dangerous crevasses. Finally, after nearly two months of hard traveling, they reached their destination. On Dec. 14, 1911, Amundsen planted the Norwegian Flag at the South Pole.

Emperor penguins huddle to keep warm. They move in the huddle so that they all have a turn to be warm in the middle. Can you help these penguins through?



In addition to Norway's flag, Amundsen left behind a tent with spare equipment for Scott, and a letter addressed to the King of Norway about his accomplishment. Though Scott eventually reached the South Pole, he died while returning home.

All five of Amundsen's crew returned safely to base camp, but only 11 dogs made it back alive. The expedition took

99 days and traveled more than 1,800 miles.

On March 8, 1912, after learning of Amundsen's successful expedition, The New York Times wrote: "The whole world has now been discovered."

Amundsen was one of the world's most notable polar explorers. In 1903 he became the first to make a ship voyage through the Northwest Passage, the sea

route through the Arctic Ocean on the northern coast of North America.

Today, Antarctica is a base for a variety of scientific research projects. The land holds many clues to Earth's past and future changes, especially those related to global climate change.

SOURCES: www.timeforkids.com, www.ducksters.com



Read Today news

Last month Read Today, along with many others, joined together to remember 8-year-old Hannah Jolley who had a passion for reading. After Hannah died suddenly from E. coli this past summer, Christopher Boothe, a 12 year old neighbor launched a book drive in her honor. He collected more than 2,600 books from his neighborhood and her classmates at Shelley Elementary School. The books were then donated to Highland City Library to become part of the coalition of Utah County Libraries which would give the entire community more access to books. Read Today and Chopper 5 joined the school in celebrating such a heartfelt project in continuing the legacy for an 8-year-old who loved to read.



Deanie Wimmer with Christopher Boothe.

CLASSROOM Connections

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S P O N S O R E D B Y



MOUNTAIN AMERICA
CREDIT UNION

Christmas around the world



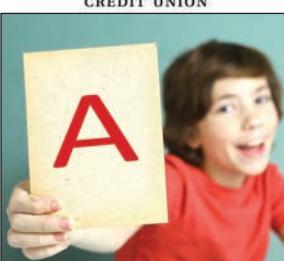
hristmas is one of the biggest celebrations for the people belonging to the Christian faith. But it would be wrong to assume that it is only celebrated among Christians.

With the world becoming a global village, Christmas is now celebrated in many countries around the world. Caroling, feasting and gift-giving — along with prayers and wishes — Christmas is celebrated with high spirits around the globe. Though the mode of celebration, the dates and the traditions vary, the spirit remains the same. While most of us celebrate it as a festive season that is spread over a week, for some it is a monthlong festival that starts with the Advent on the fourth Sunday before Dec. 25. It ends on Jan. 6 with the feast of Epiphany.

For instance, in Japan, celebrations take place on Christmas

SEE CHRISTMAS PAGE 2





New Year's resolutions for students

The idea of getting organized or exercising more may sound easy on Dec. 31, but come New Year's Day, it's a tricky proposition. When it comes to New Year's resolutions, stick with a solid strategy to not only help you now, but to ensure you're where you want to be in the future. Here are a few tips:

- **Stop procrastinating:** Start assignments early and finish them on time. This is a good practice for anything in life.

- **Keep grades high:** You don't need to have straight A's to succeed in life, but getting good grades can offer you beneficial opportunities.

- **Speak to counselors:** Take advantage of their invaluable expertise — their job is to help you with coursework and college planning. Utilize their experience to help you plan for the future.

- **Stay organized:** Create a calendar to help you stay up to date with your school work and activities.

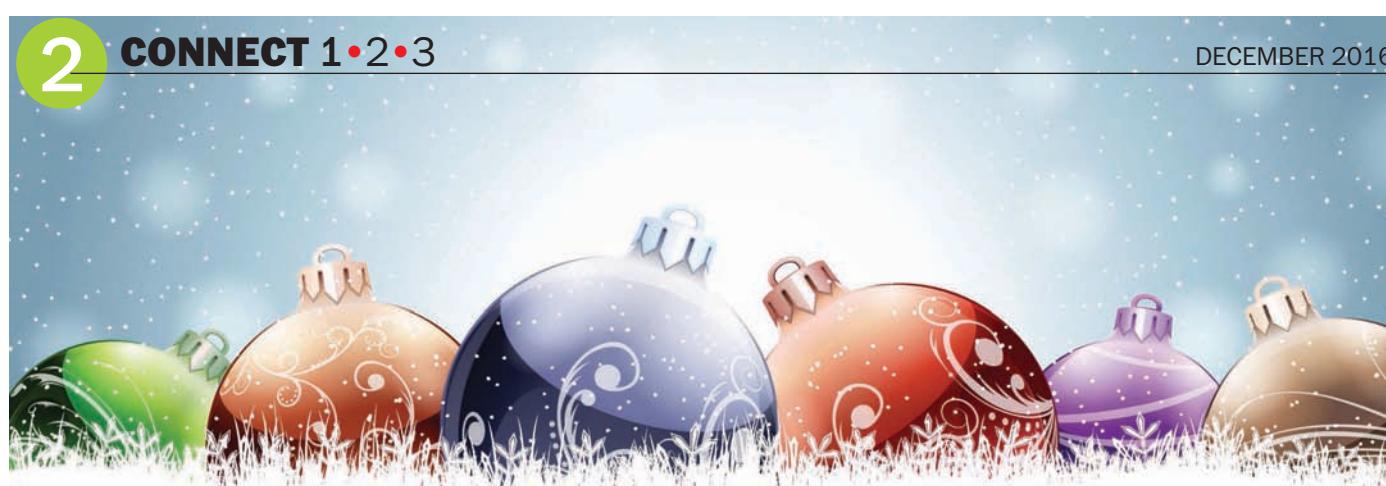
- **Don't get overwhelmed:** Make sure activities outside the classroom don't negatively affect your academics. Doing too much can take your attention away from what's really important.

- **Start saving:** Learn the value of saving now and begin by starting a college fund. Find out how much it will cost and begin researching ways to finance it.

- **Take care of yourself:** A healthy mind needs a healthy body. Make an effort to eat right and exercise to keep up with the daily demands of school.

2**CONNECT 1•2•3**

DECEMBER 2016



CHRISTMAS FROM PAGE 2



Eve and not Dec. 25. Christmas was initially introduced to Japan with the arrival of the first Europeans in the 16th century. But only in recent decades has the event become widely popular in Japan, this despite the fact that Christians make up only about 2 percent of the population.

For young children, it is the time to receive presents from Hotei-oshō, a Buddhist monk who is seen as the Japanese equivalent of Santa Claus.

Hotei-oshō is believed to leave presents in each house for the children. It is said that this benevolent monk has eyes in the back of his head, so children try to behave like he is nearby. Christmas for those in Sunday schools is the happiest day of the year. On Christmas Eve or Christmas night, the children carry out special programs that go on for hours and consist of song, recitation and drama performances.

Festivities in the United Kingdom begin at Advent. In England, the decorating of Christmas trees has been widely popular since around the 1850s when Prince Albert had a Christmas tree set up in Windsor Castle for his wife, Queen Victoria, and their children. In modern times, the Christmas decorative items last until Jan. 6 (Epiphany). It is considered bad luck to have these at home after this date.

At Christmas dinner, a plum pudding is served with little treasures hidden inside that bring their finders good luck.



In Russia, Christmas is celebrated on Jan. 7 because the Russian Orthodox church uses the old Julian calendar,

which is 13 days behind the Gregorian calendar used in the Western nations. Previously it had been celebrated on Dec. 25, but after the 1917 Revolution, religious celebrations such as Christmas were banned throughout the country. It wasn't until 1992 that the holiday began to be observed openly again.

In the traditional Russian Christmas, special prayers are said and people fast, sometimes for 39 days, until Jan. 6



(Christmas Eve), when the first evening star appears in the sky. Then begins a 12-course supper in honor of each of the 12 apostles — fish, beet soup or Borsch, cabbage stuffed with millet, cooked dried fruit and much more.

On Christmas Day, hymns and carols are sung. People gather in churches that have been decorated with the usual Christmas trees — or Yelka — flowers and colored lights.

Babushka is a traditional Christmas figure who distributes presents to children. Her name means grandmother and the legend is told that she declined to go with the wise men to see Jesus because of the cold weather. However, she regretted not going and set off to try and catch up, filling her basket with presents. She never found Jesus, and that is why she visits each house, leaving toys for good children.

In Egypt about 15 percent of people are Christians. They are the only part of the population who really celebrate Christmas. Most Egyptian Christians belong to the Coptic



Orthodox Church, and they have some unique traditions for Christmas.

For the 40 days before Christmas, Coptic Orthodox Christians fast (they don't eat any meat products except for fish). This is called "The Holy Nativity Fast." The Coptic month leading to Christmas is called Kiahk. People sing special praise songs on Saturday nights before the Sunday services.

Christmas Day isn't celebrated on the Dec. 25 but on Jan. 7, like in Russia. On Christmas Eve, everyone goes to church wearing a new outfit. The Christmas service ends at midnight with the ringing of church bells, then people go home to eat a special Christmas meal known as fata, which consists of bread, rice, garlic and boiled meat.

On Christmas morning, people in Egypt visit friends and neighbors. They take with them kaik — which is a type of shortbread — to give to the people they visit.

Even though not many in Egypt are Christians, a lot of people in the country like to celebrate Christmas as a secular holiday. Christmas is becoming very commercial, and most major supermarkets sell Christmas trees, Christmas food and decorations.

In Egypt, Santa is called Baba Noël (meaning Father Christmas).

SOURCE: www.theholidayspot.com, www.japan-guide.com, www.santas.net

Spot the differences

There are 10 changes in the picture on the bottom. Can you find them? Answers on pg. 4



Calculating the goodies

Below is a recipe for making gingerbread man cookies. This recipe makes $2\frac{1}{2}$ dozen. But we want twice that amount of cookies. Can you figure out the new measurements for the ingredients? Write your answers to the right of the ingredients listed below.

INGREDIENTS

- 1½ cups dark molasses _____
- 1 cup packed brown sugar _____
- ⅔ cup cold water _____
- ⅓ cup shortening _____
- 7 cups all-purpose flour _____
- 2 teaspoons baking soda _____
- 1 teaspoon salt _____
- 1 teaspoon ground allspice _____
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger _____
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves _____
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon _____
- 1 (16 ounce) package chocolate frosting _____

DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Lightly grease one cookie sheet.

Mix together the molasses, brown sugar, water and shortening. Sift together the flour, baking soda, salt, allspice, ginger, cloves and cinnamon. Add to sugar mixture and mix well. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

Roll dough $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick on a floured board. Cut with floured gingerbread cutter. Place about 2 inches apart on cookie sheet. Bake for 10-12 minutes. Cool and decorate with frosting.

HINT: 3 teaspoons = 1 tablespoon, 16 tablespoons = 1 cup



The 12 days of reading

This holiday season, spread the Christmas cheer by reading with your family. Read and mark your progress by coloring in an ornament each day on the tree to the right. 12 days of reading will result in a completed Christmas tree. Merry Christmas and Happy reading!



Christmas Tongue Twisters

Seven Santas sang silly songs
Running reindeer romp 'round red wreaths
Ten tiny tin trains
toot ten times

BABA NOEL
BABUSHKA
BELLS
CANDLES
CANDY
CAROLS
CELEBRATE
DECORATIONS
EGYPT
ENGLAND



Word search

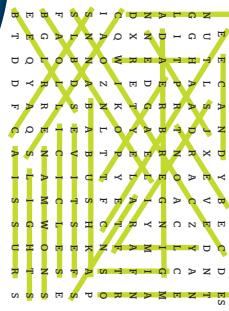
Find the holiday related words below.

E	E	C	A	N	D	Y	B	E	C	D	E	S
N	U	T	L	S	J	X	E	V	E	D	N	T
G	G	H	A	A	D	R	A	C	Z	Y	A	N
L	I	T	P	R	T	N	O	A	C	L	C	E
A	D	A	E	R	B	R	E	G	N	I	G	M
N	N	E	D	G	A	E	L	I	Y	M	I	A
D	X	R	E	T	Y	E	L	A	R	A	F	N
C	Q	W	I	K	O	P	Y	E	T	F	T	R
I	A	O	Z	N	L	T	T	F	C	N	S	O
S	N	N	A	B	A	B	U	S	H	K	A	P
S	L	B	D	S	E	V	I	T	S	E	F	S
F	A	O	L	L	I	C	I	C	L	E	S	E
B	G	L	R	R	E	N	A	M	W	O	N	S
E	E	Q	Y	A	Q	S	L	I	G	H	T	S
B	T	D	D	F	C	A	I	S	S	U	R	S

ANSWER

CALCULATING THE GOODIES:

3 cups molasses, 2 cups brown sugar, $1\frac{1}{3}$ cups cold water, $\frac{2}{3}$ cup shortening, 14 cups flour, 1 tablespoon and 1 teaspoon baking soda, 2 teaspoons salt, 2 teaspoons allspice, 1 tablespoon and 1 teaspoon ground ginger, 2 teaspoons cloves, 2 teaspoons cinnamon, 2 (16 oz) packages chocolate frosting.



ANSWER

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES: One of the penguins is black. Lower right penguin is facing right instead of left. Penguin is juggling five snowballs, not four. Stripes on hat at bottom are reversed. Stripes on one of the sleds have been reversed. Pom pom on skiing penguin's hat is green. There are twice as many snowflakes in background. Snowshoes are a different color. Skies are different color. The snowshoeing penguin has eyebrows.

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CHECK IT OUT



The City Library
THE SALT LAKE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

Start your 12 days of reading with one of these "giftable books" chosen by the librarians at Salt Lake City Public Library.



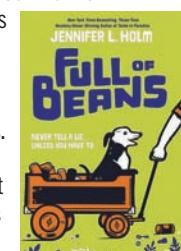
"Like Magic," by Elaine Vickers. For three 10-year-old girls, their once simple worlds are starting to feel too big. The girls each find a mysterious treasure box in their library and begin to fill the box with their own precious things. But it's up to Grace, Jada, and Malia to take the treasures and turn them into something more: true friendship.

"Gertie's Leap to Greatness," by Kate Beasley. Gertie Reece Foy is 100% Not-From-Concentrate awesome. So when her absent mother decides to move away from their small town, Gertie sets out on her greatest mission yet: becoming the best fifth grader in the universe to show her mother exactly what she'll be leaving behind.



"Full of Beans," by Jennifer Holm.

Grown-ups lie. That's one truth Beans knows for sure. Not that Beans really minds. He has plans. Big plans. And the consequences might surprise even Beans himself.



"America's National Parks: A Pop-up Book," by Don Compton. A coast to coast journey featuring 18 of our most visited national parks.

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