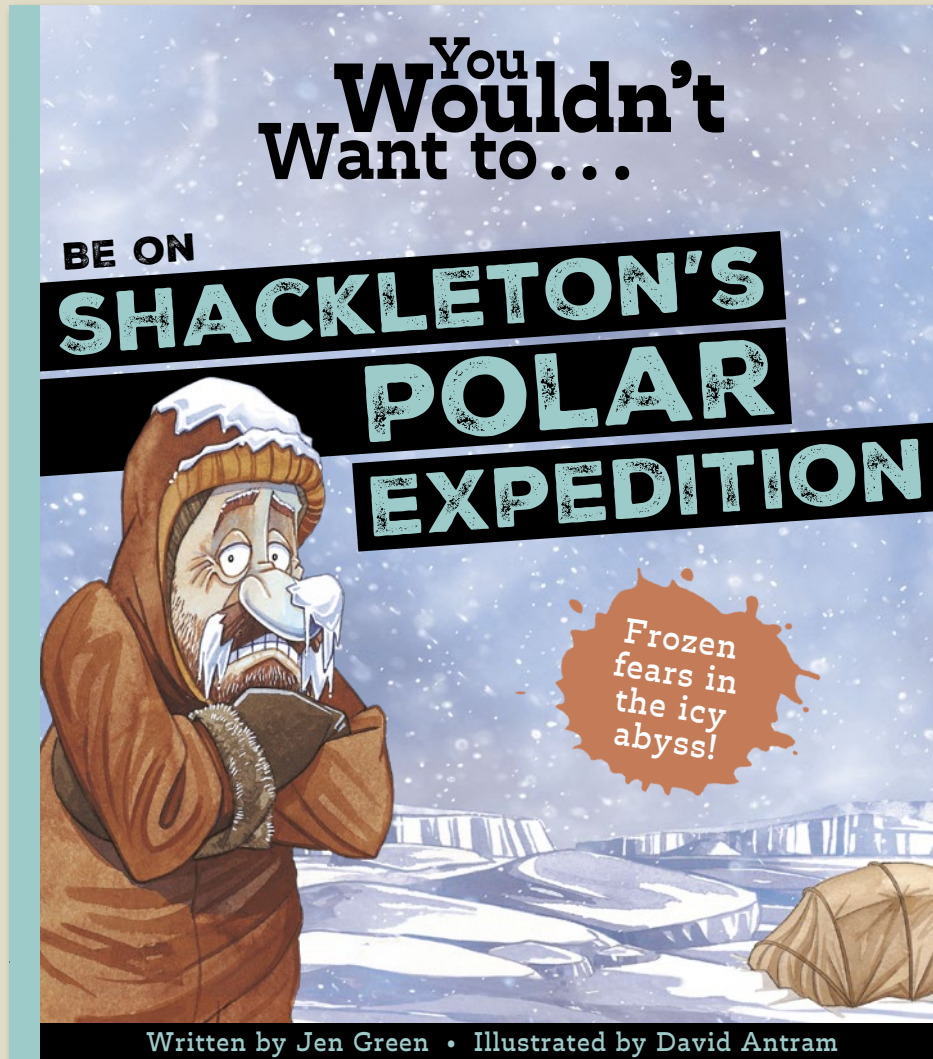


You Wouldn't Want To Be On Shackleton's Polar Expedition!



An extraordinary exploration of Shackleton's treacherous trip across the chilly Antarctic!

- Perfect for Horrible Histories fans, this book uncovers all the gross, funny bits that are left out of traditional history books.
- Combines funny text and comic illustrations to fascinating facts, managing to accurately convey historical realities in an engaging, educational way.
- A hilarious, fact-filled book to engage reluctant readers with the history curriculum and famous explorers, encouraging further independent reading.

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A mad mission

Shackleton plans to make the first overland crossing of the vast continent of Antarctica via the South Pole. That's 3,339 km across a mostly uncharted frozen wilderness!

Shackleton announces his plans in The Times newspaper. You read the article with great interest. Eager for adventure, you apply immediately. Shackleton decides to take you on!

THE PLAN
The first of three expeditions to attempt the crossing of Antarctica was led by Ernest Shackleton. He was joined by two other men and a dog. The expedition was the first to reach the South Pole.

SHACKLETON'S PREVIOUS ATTEMPTION
The year is 1914. Ernest Shackleton has just returned from his first expedition to Antarctica. He has a map of the continent and a plan to cross it.

Handy hint
I wish I was a penguin!

Good to have you on board, Whizzer!

Ice camping

What's on the menu?
You abandon the first camp after a few weeks when the pack ice becomes smaller. The second is called Potemkin Camp – and patience is certainly something you need, as camp life is decidedly boring. The men's activities are hunting and trying to keep warm. You still wait for meat and see their blubber (fat) to fuel the stoves. You have to keep a careful watch for fierce leopard seals, whose huge fangs could kill you in an attack. By March 1915, the camp has drifted so far north that you reach the edge of the pack ice region.

Handy hint
Pack ice is made of small pieces of ice that are stuck together. It's not as solid as a block of ice. The men had to be careful not to fall through the ice.

Remember pig fat meat before I blubber (bleat)!

You see, patience is a virtue!

Off again in an open boat

With no rescue likely, Shackleton decides to make for South Georgia in the strongest blizzard. The island lies 1,200 km away across the world's stormiest seas. He chooses a small team to go with him. You were an expert navigator on the way to Elephant Island, so Shackleton picks you, three sailors and the ship's carpenter.

Handy hint
The men had to be very careful when they were in the open boat. The sea was very rough and the wind was very strong.

What a start!

PREPARING THE BOAT
The boat is covered in the ice. The men have to dig it out. They have to be very careful not to damage the boat.

WATERPROOFING
The men have to waterproof the boat. They use animal skins and oil to make the boat waterproof.

Abandon ship!

After all these months, Endurance is still stuck fast. In August 1915 the pack ice moves and slowly begins to crush the ship. In October, loud groans and cracking sounds are heard as the hull timbers split and the glass shatters. The ship is thrown upwards and suddenly lurches onto its side while you are below decks. An icy torrent pours in and supplies, men and dogs slide into the water! You work the pumps day and night, but it's no use. Finally, Shackleton gives the order to abandon ship and you all move onto the ice.

Handy hint
Rig up canvas sheets as chutes to get supplies off the ship quickly! The huskies seem to enjoy the ride!

She's going, lads!

HELP!

Save what you can!

CRACK!

ON THE ICE
You spend your first night on the ice in a freezing tent. The temperature is -28°C. The moon shines so brightly that it keeps you awake.

SUPPLIES
In the panic, you manage to save only a few vital provisions. These include, the sledges, navigating equipment and the ship's bays are piled up on the ice.

One week later

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