

# SCIENTISTS IN THE WILD ANTARCTICA

HELEN SCALES • KATE HENDRY • RÔMOLO D'HIPÓLITO



## QUIZ

1. How thick (on average) is the Antarctic ice sheet?

- a. 50m
- b. 500m
- c. 2km
- d. 10km
- e. 100km

2. Roughly when did Antarctica freeze over?

- a. 2000 years ago
- b. 10,000 years ago
- c. 5 million years ago
- d. 35 million years ago
- e. 200 million years ago

3. What are krill?

- a. Pieces of sea ice that are less than 2m in size
- b. Specialised penguin feathers that help keep them warm and dry
- c. Little pieces of skeleton made by animals that live on the seafloor called sponges
- d. Plant fossils from the Cretaceous that were eaten by dinosaurs
- e. Small marine animals, that can live in huge swarms in waters around Antarctica

4. How far does an Arctic Tern fly in a year?

- a. more than 35,000 km
- b. 10 km
- c. 150 km
- d. 2,000 km
- e. 15,000 km

5. Why is Antarctica important for the climate?

- a. The Southern Ocean around Antarctica is home to lots of algae that lock up carbon from the atmosphere
- b. Deep waters are formed around Antarctica that help drive ocean circulation
- c. The Antarctic ice sheet reflects energy from the sun back into space
- d. All of the above

6. What is a polynya?

- a. An ice-free area of sea surrounded by sea ice
- b. A piece of equipment used to study space weather
- c. An icefish nest found in the Weddell Sea
- d. A type of orca that live in Antarctica

7. How do Antarctic fish stop themselves from freezing?

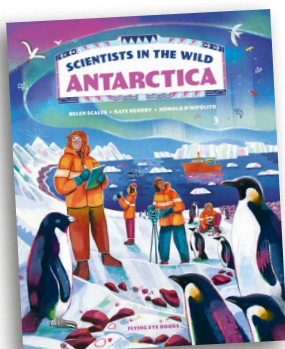
- a. They have antifreeze in their bodies that stop ice crystals from growing, then get rid of them in their poos
- b. They have to keep swimming very fast
- c. They have chemicals in their bodies that heat up
- d. They dig burrows in the seabed

8. True or false: dinosaurs used to live on Antarctica?

- TRUE
- FALSE

9. How long can elephant seals hold their breath underwater?

- a. 2 minutes
- b. more than an hour
- c. 10 minutes
- d. 20 minutes
- e. 30 minutes



ANSWERS  
1: c - 2km  
2: d - 35 million years ago  
3: e - Small marine animals  
4: a - more than 35,000 km  
5: d - All of the above  
6: a - An ice-free area of sea surrounded by sea ice  
7: a - They have antifreeze in their bodies  
8: TRUE - 100 million years ago, Antarctica was much warmer than it is today and covered in lush forests where dinosaurs lived.  
9: b - more than an hour