



Penguins are flightless birds.

While other birds have wings for flying, penguins have **adapted** flippers to help them swim in the water.

Most penguins live in the **Southern Hemisphere**.

Penguins do not live at the North Pole.

Penguins eat a range of fish and other sea life that they catch underwater. Penguins can drink sea water.

Penguins spend around half their time in water and the other half on land.

Little Blue Penguins are the smallest type of penguin, averaging around 33cm tall.

Penguins **molt** (shed their feathers) each year. **Molting** is essential because feathers wear out during the year. Feathers become worn when penguins rub against each other and when they come in contact with the ground and water.

The new feather grows under the old one, pushing it out. The old feather does not fall out until the new one is completely in place. The molt is patchy and can give individual penguins a scruffy look.



Penguins are a popular choice for business names, sports teams and logos - there are many different ways to draw the same thing!



NEXT MONTH... How to look after a dolphin!

Monthly news and facts from around the World for Belford First School children



WHERE IN THE WORLD Antarctic Exploration on Page 7

INSPIRATIONAL PEOPLE The man behind the designs for Apple, Page 3

FIRST FLOWER BLOOMS IN SPACE!

Astronauts have grown the first flower in space on-board the International Space Station.

The orange zinnia flowers can be eaten and were grown in the 'Veggie' laboratory, which was installed on the space station in 2014.

Growing their own food in space is a big step for astronauts because it means they could go on longer missions in the future.

They've grown lettuce before but the zinnia is the first to bloom flowers. It shows that it may be possible to grow other crops like tomatoes.

Growing plants in space might be trickier than you think - watering flowers is much more difficult in a place without gravity!



See our newspaper online and keep up with latest school news:
www.belfordfirst.northumberland.sch.uk



WORD OF THE MONTH

canoe (canoes)

A small and light boat, pointed at both ends and propelled with a paddle.

There are many different types of canoes including sea, sprint, racing, marathon, hunting, creek and war canoes!

You will find stories about canoes in history, sport and science.



Can planes tell the weather?

QUESTION FOR A GROWN UP...


If you were an animal, what would you be and why?

Quote of the month

BE SILLY.
BE HONEST.
BE KIND.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY CALENDAR...

ADD IN YOUR DATES!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				22 Theatre production of Peter Pan performed in the School Hall	23	24
25 Robert Burn's Night	26	27 Class 1 & 2 Visit Tesco's Farm to Fork	28	29	30	31
FEBRUARY 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Chinese New Year 'Year of the Monkey'	9 Shrove Tuesday ...YUMMY PANCAKES!	10 Ash Wednesday	11	12	13 HALF TERM.....	14 Valentines Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
.....HALF TERM.....						
		17 'Random Acts of Kindness Day'				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

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WHERE IN THE WORLD...

CAPTAIN SCOTT'S KITCHEN

The first official British vessel to venture to the East Antarctic in 80 years has been to visit the original hut where world-famous explorer Captain Scott stayed with his crew 100 years ago.

Captain Scott and his team of explorers were among the first people ever to brave the frozen Antarctic to reach the South Pole.

The team found new species as well as rocks and fossils that helped improve our understanding of the area.

Now, over 100 years later, the **Royal Navy's HMS Protector** is patrolling the region to try and protect its delicate eco-system.

The ship is designed to cope with long expeditions in the frozen Arctic sea, and has made it further south than any other official British vessel since before the Second World War.

Some of the crew decided to trek across the snow and ice, to visit the famous hut where the legendary explorers stayed during their expedition.

The hut hasn't been touched since the expedition, so everything is exactly as the explorers left it.

Five members of Scott's team made it to the South Pole, but they couldn't survive the freezing weather and lack of food on the 1,500 km journey back.

The crew held a remembrance service to honour them.



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SCIENCE...

CAN PLANES TELL THE WEATHER?

YES! Weather planes don't carry any passengers. Instead they fly through the air recording the weather.

The planes measure the temperature of the air, the speed of the wind and how much water is in the air.

This information helps weather forecasters tell us what the weather is going to be.

