

## Details



**Completion Time:** About one period

**Permission:** Download and Share

## Polar Explorer Activity

### Overview

Few people are familiar with the fascinating stories that Arctic and Antarctic explorers have to share. Students will research an explorer and create a dangling string with key information and highlights from the expedition(s) of that explorer.

### Objective

To learn about polar explorers and polar expeditions.

### Preparation

Gather needed materials. Have the explorers' information and photos preprinted or have the ability to print them on site. If you want students to focus on a certain time frame such as early 1800's, or on certain explorers that are more well known, or on modern explorers, choose the appropriate explorers from the list in advance of assigning students to their explorers.

### Description

Students can choose an explorer or the teacher can have students draw the names of explorers randomly. Students then research the main details of that explorer's expedition(s) and summarize them on index cards. Information and photos can come from a variety of websites that discuss polar expeditions. The top index card should be the explorers name and a picture of the explorer. The second card could be the name of the expedition and a picture of the ship they took to reach polar waters or a picture of the expedition crew. The third card could outline the main accomplishments of the expedition with associated photos. Additional cards could be added if there is sufficient time and interest. Index cards are then linked by paperclips or pieces of string so they can be hung around the room. Students make an oral presentation on their explorers and then hang their creation up.

## Materials

- Internet and printer
- 3" x 5" index cards
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- String or paperclips
- Hole punch
- List of explorers (see attached)



**Resources**

Information and photos of explorers and their expeditions come from a variety fo websites.

**Credits**

Mindy Bell thought of this activity and will gladly accept improvements. You can contact her at [mbell@apsc.org](mailto:mbell@apsc.org)

## **Polar Explorers**

Roald Amundsen	Henry Hudson	Ernest Henry Shackleton
Salomen August Andrée	Alain Hubert	Otto Schmidt
Piotr Fyodorovich Anjou	Khariton Laptev	Will Steger
Josee Auclair	Albert Hastings Markham	Boris Vilkitsky
Ann Bancroft	Alexander MacKenzie	Richard Weber
Willem Barents	Francis Leopold McClintock	Hubert Wilkins
Fabian von Bellinghausen	Janice Meek	
Louise Boyde	Fridtjof Nansen	
Edward Bransfield	Inge Solheim	
Daniel Byles	Erling Kagge	
Richard Evelyn Byrd	Adolf Erik Nordenskjold	
Semion Cheluskin	Nathaniel Palmer	
George Comer	Eric Philips	
Frederick A. Cook	Robert Edwin Peary	
Tom Crean	Ralph Plaistted	
Francis Crozier	Richard Profit	
Sir Ranulph Fiennes	Lewis Gordon Pugh	
John Franklin	John Rae	
Adrian de Gerlache	James Clark Ross	
Adolphus Greely	John Ross	
Pen Hadow	Yakov Sannikov	
Samuel Hearne	William Scoresby	
Matthew A. Henson	Robert Falcon Scott	
John Hornby	Georgy Sedov	