

Hernando Students Welcome Special Visitor

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[Kate Douglas](#)

A special guest recently visited eighth graders at Hernando Middle School.

Pink Palace education manager Alex Eilers stopped by to talk about her upcoming expedition to Antarctica. A small team of scientists are heading to the “ICE” thanks to a program called the PolarTREC to study Weddell Seals.

During her talk with students, she explains how the scientists will be able to study the seals up close because they are docile animals even though they are at the top of the food chain.

Tonya Briggs, Hernando Middle science teacher, spoke with WREG about how exciting the visit was for the kids.

“I think it makes them remember. They take ownership of it. It will mean more to them than just memorizing information,” Briggs said.

The Pink Palace is encouraging everyone to participate in the upcoming expedition. Here are two ways you can join in:

1. Decorate your own flag and send it with Alex. She will fly it over Antarctica and mail it back to you! You can also see your flag in her PolarTREC Journals. Flags can be purchased at the Museum gift shop.
2. Bring a self-addressed, stamped postcard to the museum and Alex will take it to Antarctica and mail it back to you, your family, or your friends!!! Decorate your own postcard, purchase one at your local post office or buy one at the Museum gift shop!

Postcards and Flags accepted through December 18.

The scientists will also be journaling everyday so students will be able to ask questions while they are there.

To follow the PolarTREC journey, click [here](#).

For more on the information on the journey, click [here](#).

Details from: [WREG](#)