

Ernest Shackleton

Polar Explorer



Aim

- To explain who Ernest Shackleton was, and what he achieved.

Success Criteria

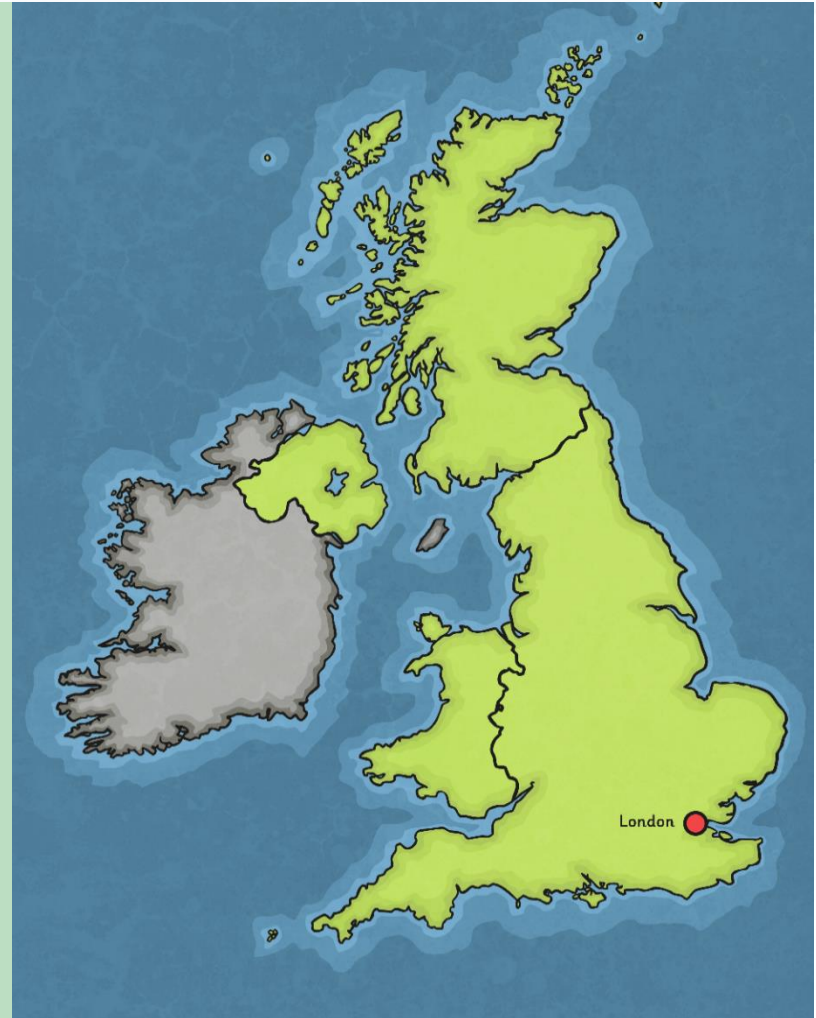
- To know about his early life.
- To recall his expeditions and what he discovered.

Who Was Ernest Shackleton?

Ernest Shackleton was born in Ireland in 1874.

He was the second oldest of 10 children.

He lived in Ireland until 1884, when his family moved to South London.



Who Was Ernest Shackleton?



Ernest loved reading, and had a great imagination. He loved the idea of going on great adventures.

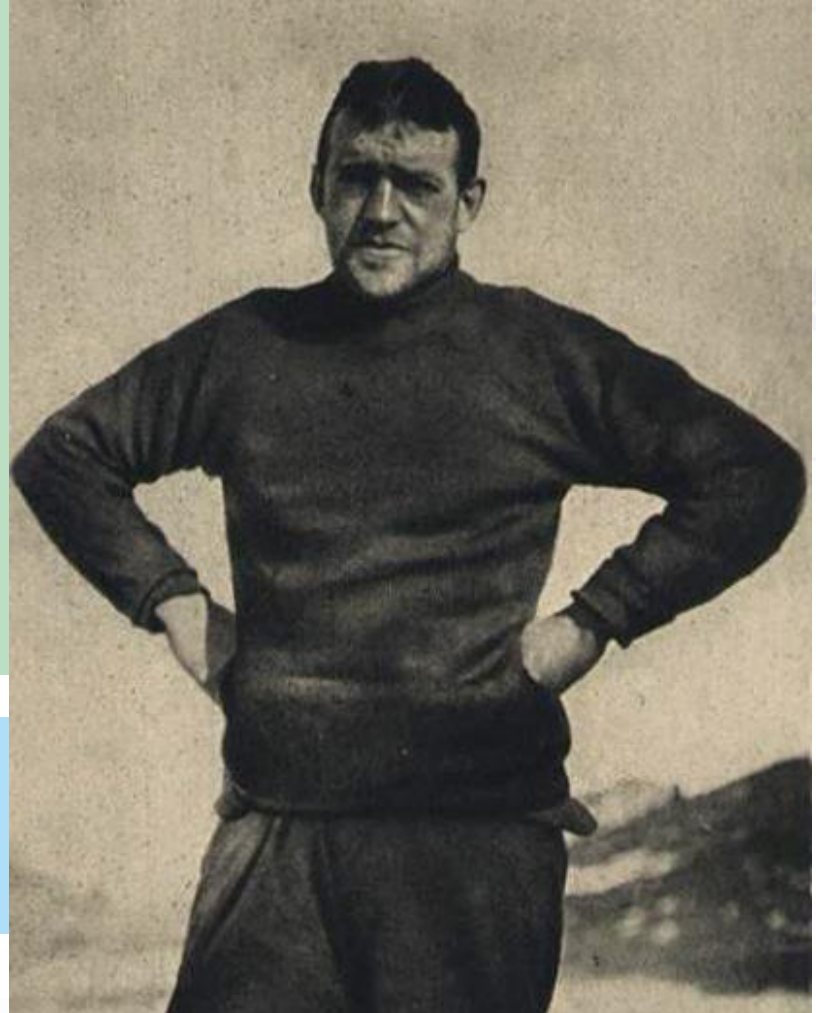
His father was a doctor and wanted Ernest to follow in his footsteps.

However, Ernest had a different idea about what he wanted to do.

What Did Shackleton Do?

At the age of just 16, Shackleton joined the Navy and became a sailor.

He was able to fulfil his dreams of having adventures and sailing all over the world. He wanted to become an explorer.



Where Did Shackleton Want to Explore?

Shackleton wanted to be a polar explorer.

He wanted to be the **first person** to reach the South Pole.



In 1901, he went on his first Antarctic expedition, aged just 25. He joined another explorer, Robert Scott, and he came closer to the South Pole than anyone had before him.

Unfortunately, he got very sick and had to come home before reaching the South Pole.

Shackleton's Second Expedition

Shackleton's second expedition was in 1907. This time he was a leader on a ship called Nimrod.

Despite terrible weather conditions and a treacherous journey, Shackleton and his team managed to get to the South Pole on 9th January, 1909.

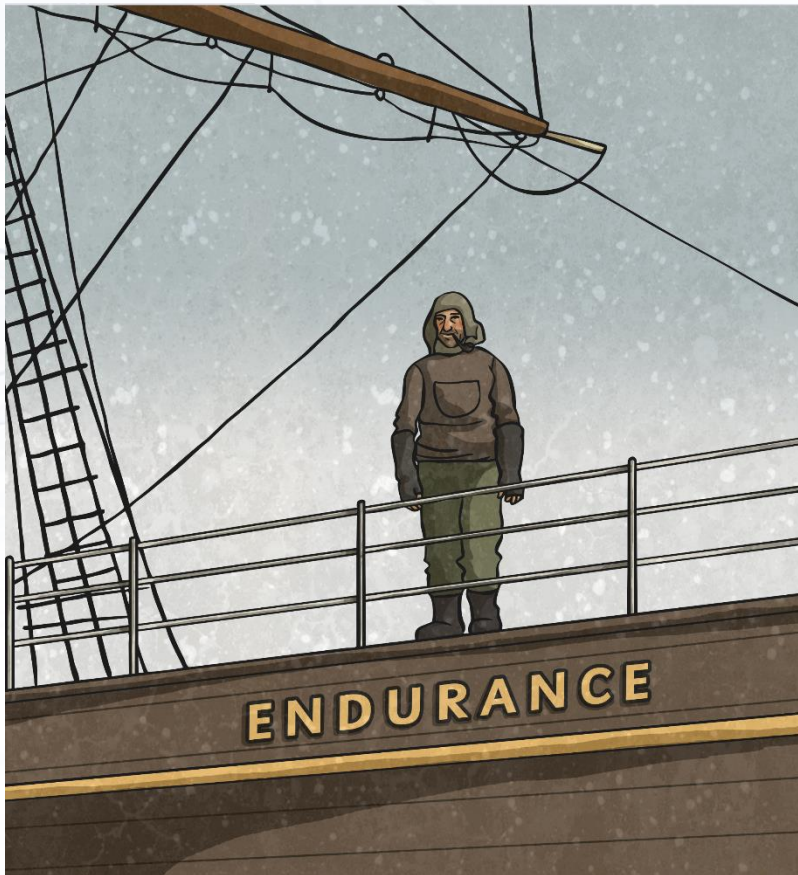
On his return, he was regarded as a hero. He received a medal from the Royal Geographical Society. He also received a knighthood and became Sir Ernest Shackleton.



Shackleton and some of his team in Antarctica.

Did Shackleton Continue Exploring?

Shackleton wanted to explore even more of the world and so advertised for men to join him.



The advert told men to expect cold temperatures and very dangerous conditions.

In 1914, he began an exploration on a ship called Endurance.

In January, the ship became trapped between the ice. Shackleton and his men abandoned the ship, and had to live on the ice for several months.

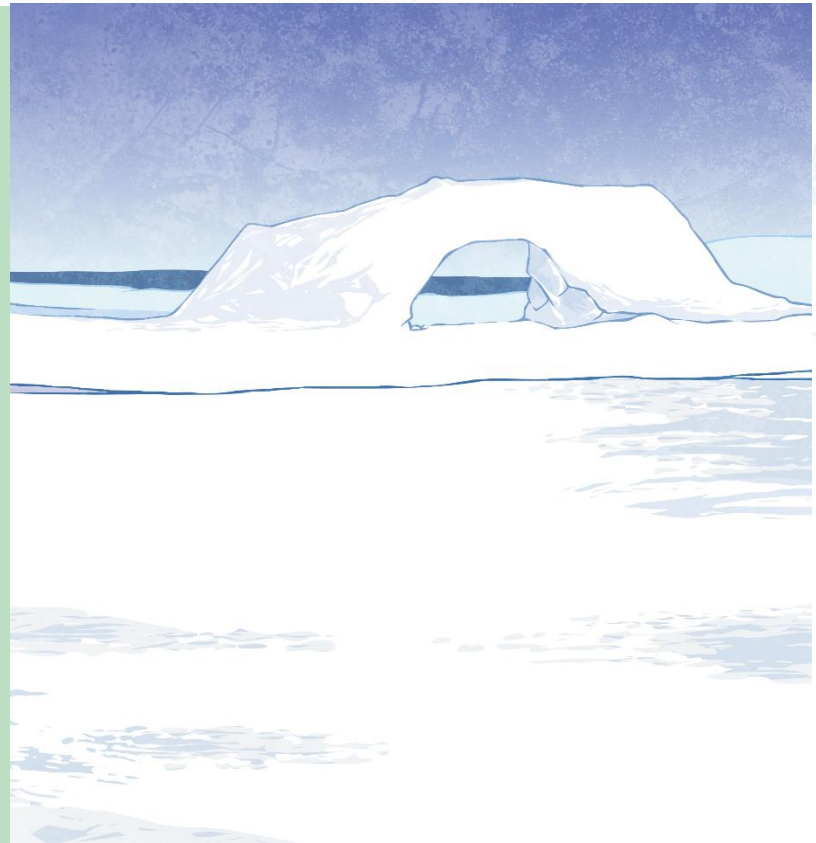
Did Shackleton Continue Exploring?

In the spring, the ice began to thaw and Shackleton's men were able to board small boats and head for Elephant Island.

When they got there, nobody was on the island.

Shackleton and five men took a lifeboat to land. Once they arrived, they were able to organise a rescue mission for the other men.

Shackleton and his men were on the ice for almost two years but thankfully, no one died.



What Happened to Shackleton?

During an expedition, Shackleton sadly died in January 1922.

He is buried on a small island in the Atlantic ocean.

There is a statue to celebrate Shackleton in London.



