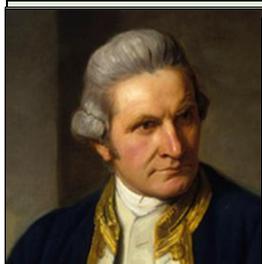


# Knowledge Organiser: Plymouth Explorers

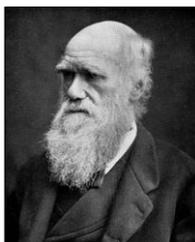
| Sir Francis Drake                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Sir Ernest Shackleton                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| <p><b>Background:</b><br/>During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, many important voyages of discovery were made by sailors in search of new routes, new lands to conquer and treasure to plunder. An English sailor, Francis Drake, in his ship The Golden Hind., made one of these voyages. He was the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>Sir Ernest Shackleton rejected his father's wish for him to become a doctor and joined the merchant navy. In 1914, as the shadow of war falls across Europe, a party led by veteran explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton sets out to become the first to traverse the Antarctic continent. Their initial optimism is short-lived, however, as the ice field slowly thickens, encasing the ship Endurance in a death-grip, crushing their craft, and marooning 28 men on a polar ice floe. In an epic struggle of man versus the elements, Shackleton leads his team on a harrowing quest for survival.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>Timeline: Important dates</b><br/> <b>1540-</b> Francis Drake was born in Tavistock, Devon.<br/> <b>1563-</b> Drake made one of the first English slaving voyages as part of a <b>fleet</b> led by his cousin John Hawkins. He brought African slaves to work in 'the new world'. All but two ships of the <b>expedition</b> were lost when attacked by a <b>Spanish squadron</b>. He escaped along with John Hawkins, surviving the attack by swimming.<br/> <b>1570-1571</b> – Drake made two profitable trading voyages to the <b>West Indies</b>.<br/> <b>1577-</b> Drake was secretly commissioned by Elizabeth I to set off on an expedition against the Spanish colonies on the American Pacific coast.<br/> <b>1580-</b> Drake arrived home with a rich cargo of spices and Spanish treasure. Seven months later, Elizabeth knighted him aboard the Golden Hind.<br/> <b>1587-</b> War with Spain was imminent and Drake entered the port of Cadiz and destroyed 30 of the ships.<br/> <b>1588-</b> Drake is Vice Admiral of the fleet that destroys the Spanish Armada.<br/> <b>1595-</b> Drake and John Hawkins sailed from Plymouth on their last <b>expedition</b> to the <b>West Indies</b>. The Spanish were prepared for him this time, and the <b>venture</b> was a disaster.<br/> <b>1596-</b> Drake died off the coast of Portobello, Panama. Hawkins died at the same time, and their bodies were buried at sea.</p> | <p><b>Timeline: Important dates</b><br/> <b>1874-</b> Ernest Shackleton was born in Ireland, educated in London.<br/> <b>1901-</b> He was chosen to go on the <b>Antarctic expedition</b> led by Robert Falcon Scott on the ship 'Discovery'. With Scott and one other, Shackleton trekked towards the <b>South Pole</b> in difficult conditions, getting closer to the pole than anyone had before. He got ill and he had to return home but gained valuable experience.<br/> <b>1908-</b> Shackleton returned to the Antarctic as the leader of his own <b>expedition</b>, on the ship 'Nimrod'. His team climbed Mount Erebus, made important scientific discoveries and set a record by coming even closer to the <b>South Pole</b> than before. He was <b>knighted</b> on his return to Britain.<br/> <b>1911-</b> Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen reached the South Pole, followed by Scott who died on the journey home.<br/> <b>1914-</b> Shackleton made his third trip with the ship '<b>Endurance</b>' that departed from Plymouth. <b>Voyage in the ice</b>.<br/> <b>Early 1915-</b> The ship became trapped in the ice, and 10 months later sank. Shackleton's <b>crew</b> had already abandoned the ship to live on the floating ice.<br/> <b>1916-</b> They set off in three small boats, eventually reaching <b>Elephant Island</b>. He went to find help with five <b>crew</b> members. In a small boat, the six men spent 16 days crossing 1,300km of ocean to reach South Georgia and then trekked across the island to a <b>whaling station</b>. The remaining men were rescued.<br/> <b>1919-</b> Shackleton's account was published.<br/>           Shackleton's fourth <b>expedition</b> aimed to <b>circumnavigate</b> the <b>Antarctic continent</b> but on 5<sup>th</sup> June <b>1922</b>, he died of a heart attack off South Georgia. He was buried on the island.</p> |
| <p><b>Outcomes:</b><br/> <b>Create an advert to join an expedition</b> - publish on school website.<br/> <b>Historical recount</b> – publish in the school library.<br/> <b>Group poster presentation</b> - South America, North America, Africa, Asia, Europe - present to Year 4 and 6.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>Outcomes:</b><br/> <b>Record poems</b> over video footage of Shackleton's expedition.<br/> <b>Diary entry</b> - Email and share with Year 5 children at Drake.<br/> <b>Newsround interview with Shackleton</b>- post on website.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |



Captain James Cook (first European to explore Australasia)



Pilgrims – European settlers of North America in The Mayflower



Charles Darwin, explored South America on board The Beagle



Captain Robert Falcon Scott, attempted to be the first man to reach the South Pole

## Other Explorers from Plymouth

| Key vocabulary:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <p><b>Antarctica</b><br/>Southern continent</p> <p><b>Arctic</b><br/>Area of world around the North Pole</p> <p><b>Chronology/Chronological</b><br/>Time order</p> <p><b>Circumnavigate</b><br/>To travel around the world</p> <p><b>Continent</b><br/>A large land mass, usually made of several countries</p> <p><b>Endurance/Endure</b><br/>To withstand difficult circumstances</p> <p><b>Equator</b><br/>Imaginary line around the centre of the world</p> <p><b>Expedition</b><br/>A journey undertaken with a particular purpose</p> <p><b>Latitude</b><br/>Imaginary line going horizontally around the world</p> <p><b>Longitude</b><br/>Imaginary line going from North Pole to south Pole</p> <p><b>Navigator</b><br/>A person who steers a ship or explores by sea</p> <p><b>Ocean</b><br/>A large body of salt water</p> <p><b>Persevere/Perseverance</b><br/>To keep trying when a task becomes difficult</p> <p><b>Polar</b><br/>Region around either the South or North Pole</p> <p><b>Tropic</b><br/>Area of the world either side of the equator</p> |