SunSpaceArt -WS6
Poetry Worksheet – Imagining Antarctica through poetry

**Background**
The SunSpaceArt project aims to inspire children and to develop creativity. The project brings together arts and science learning (STEAM). The team comprises scientists, space ambassadors and artists. The project is funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council. For more information, see the www.sunspaceart.org website or contact info@sunspaceart.

This art worksheet is designed for teachers to deliver SunSpaceArt lessons independently. It focuses on Antarctica.

**Level:** Year 3/4  
**Grade:** Key stage 2  
**Class size:** 30

**Introduction**
Inspiring children about the landscape, wildlife and explorers of Antarctica. Developing original poems.

![Poetry Sample](image)

**Workshop plan**

**Antarctica presentation (30 min)**
Covering the geography of Antarctica (south pole, covered in ice, a desert), the wildlife (incl. penguins live in the Antarctic and polar bears in the Arctic), and explorers (Scott, Amundsen and Shackleton) (20 min). Questions and discussion (10 min).

**Poetry workshop (35 min)**
Ask the children to write their names on a piece of paper. Most will write it in tiny letters in the corner. Then ask them to write their names big, in colour and expressively. This is the difference between prose and poetry. Ask them to close their eyes and imagine they’re a character in Antarctica: an animal (e.g. whale, krill, albatross), a thing (e.g. sky, iceberg, cloud) or a person (e.g. explorer, scientist and/or artist). Then ask them to write about who they are, what they sense (see, hear, smell, taste and/or touch) and what their message is to the world. The latter could be something important and that they’re desperate to bring to our attention or less serious. Leave adequate time for each. If there is time they could add illustrations. Tidy up (5 min).

**Show and tell (10 min)**
Ask volunteers to read their poems and discuss them as a group. Ask the children to write feedback (on post-it notes or forms).

**Additional resources**
- Antarctica presentation
- Example short poems by Mario Petrucci
- Factsheets are available from the British Antarctic Survey (www.bas.ac.uk) and Royal Geographical Society (www.rgs.org/schools)

**Extension**
- Create a watercolour of Antarctica – see separate worksheet.
- Developing a story about a journey to Antarctica.
Example poems by students

I am a slippery ice budge
I see a great wave
I hear waves crashing
Why are we nothing?

A black penguins
A Fish watching everything
I saw crashing waves
I heard a penguins
Why is the weather getting hotter and why are penguins eating us.

I am a headfull hered I could hear
feet steps coming
I could taste the
icy salt
I could hear the icy
bees hitting
why am I not real?

White block of snow
I heard a herd of penguins coming towards me
I smell the salty sea washing up
why are humans stepping on me?