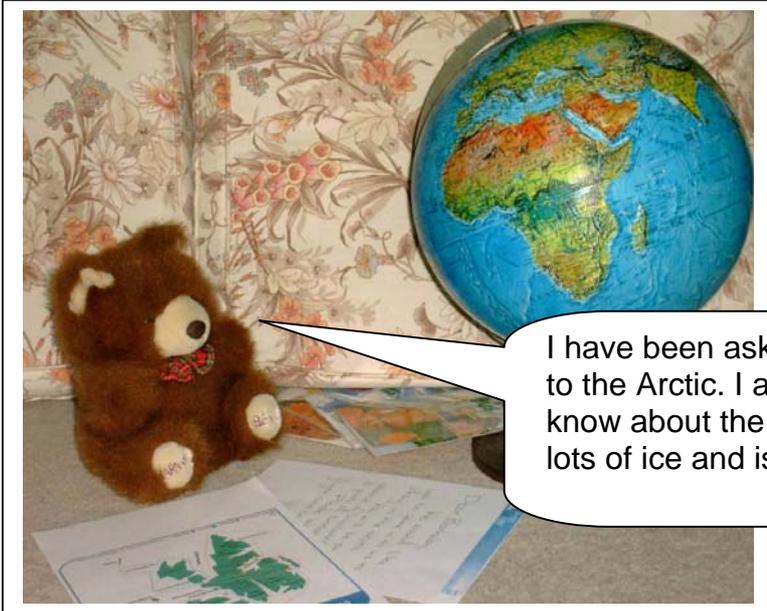
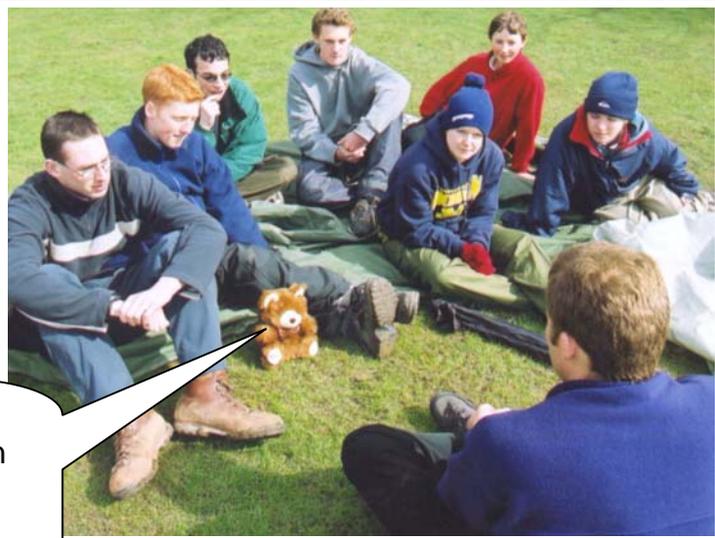


# The Start of my Arctic Adventure



I have been asked if I would like to go to the Arctic. I am very excited. All I know about the Arctic is that it has lots of ice and is very cold.



Here are some of the people I am going with. There will be 12 people in my group. We are being told about the things we will do.



It's getting very cold. I must put my coat on!

We all went into a big fridge. We did this to see what it would be like in the Arctic. Here we are putting up a tent. It was like trying to put up a tent inside your freezer at home!



# The Journey To Svalbard



First we flew on a jet from London to Oslo in Norway.



Then we flew in a smaller plane to the island of Svalbard. It is a long way up from Norway. It is in the Arctic circle.



This is the plane we flew in to get to Svalbard.



## Getting Near The Island of Svalbard



We flew over rocky islands with mountains and deep valleys. Some grass grew on the hillside but there were no trees.



On the high mountains there was snow and ice. The plane bumped about as we flew over the mountains. It looked very cold and empty

# Setting Up Base Camp



When we arrived we set up a base camp. At first we camped on the shore. These are our tents.



A ship brought all our supplies. Can you see all the bags with food in them?



The supplies were brought to base camp. The blue barrels have fresh water in them.

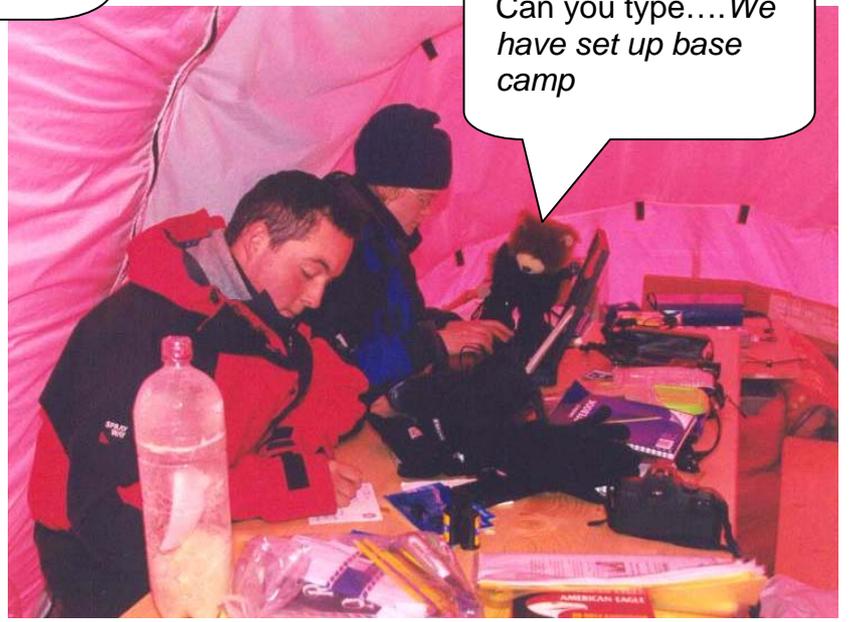


# At Base Camp 1



My friend Sooz helped me to type out my report. We sat in the red tent

Can you type.... We have set up base camp



In the evening we sat around a fire. But it did not get dark!!! It was light all the way through the night.

Ooh I do feel tired



Where did the night go? Can you find out?

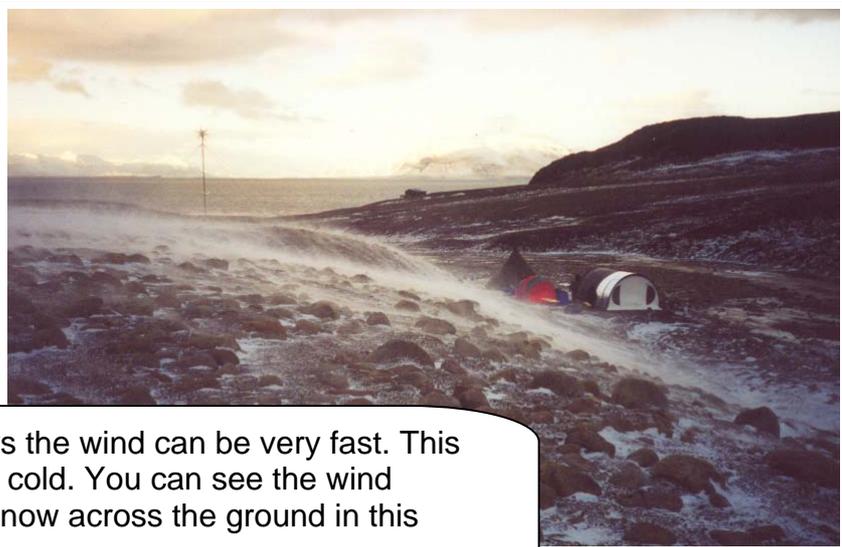
## At Base Camp 2



When it got colder we moved our camp site. Can you see the red tent? You can see that we are in a dip to keep out of the wind.



The snow has fallen and the ground is very white.



On some days the wind can be very fast. This makes it very cold. You can see the wind pushing the snow across the ground in this picture.

Walking outside is very difficult in this weather. To keep warm we put on many layers of clothes.



# The Town of Longyearbyen



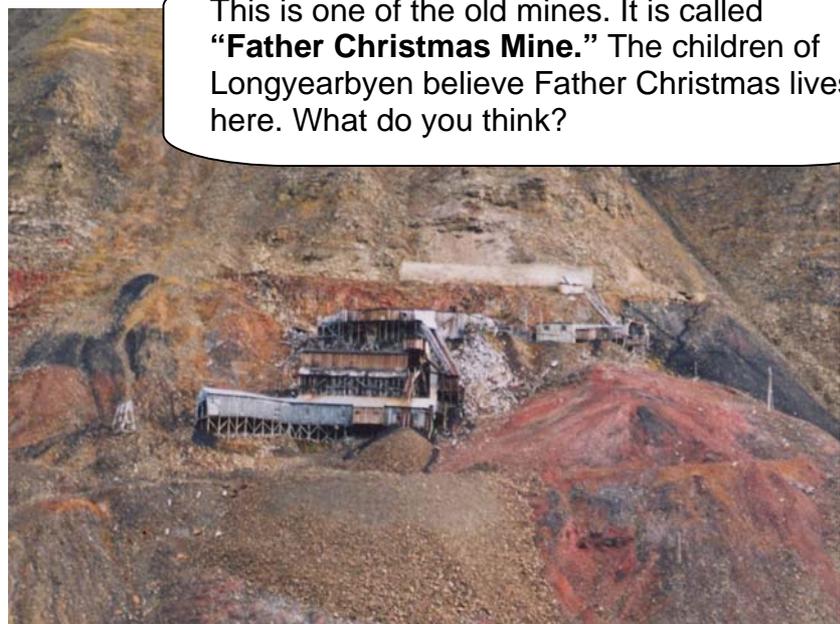
The nearest town to base camp is called **Longyearbyen**. You say it **Long – year – ben**. Longyearbyen is the capital of Svalbard.



It was an important mining town. They used to mine coal. There is a statue of a miner in the town. Can you see his helmet and lamp?



This is one of the old mines. It is called "**Father Christmas Mine**." The children of Longyearbyen believe Father Christmas lives here. What do you think?



# Buildings of Longyearbyen



Look at the colourful houses. In Winter the sun does not shine here. That is why it is nice to have some colour around you.



The school has a lovely new building. **Skole** is the Norwegian word for school. The **ole** is said like **hole**. Try it.



Fancy having a polar bear for your school badge!



# Some Unusual Signs



This warning triangle says beware of snow scooters - skidoos. The blue sign shows where you can park your skidoo.



What do you think this warning sign tells you?



This signpost shows how far Svalbard is away from many famous places. Can you find London, Paris and Tokyo?



# Getting About In The Arctic

When the Winter snow comes these snow scooters are used all the time. They are like motorbikes with skis. Sometimes they are called '**skidoos**'



**Skidoos** replaced dog sledges. You can still see some of the old sledges. They need a team of dogs to pull them along.



Look at this dog team being trained. As there is no snow they practice by pulling along a truck!



## Meeting Some Working Dogs



I met two friendly dogs called **huskies**. This one is called Sako. He told me that dogs are very important here as they can pull sledges across the snow and ice.

To say huskies say h-us-keys

His friend was called Balto. Balto told me that it was warm at the moment but Winter was coming soon.



I was glad I had my coat on as I was cold already. I think it must be very, very cold in winter !

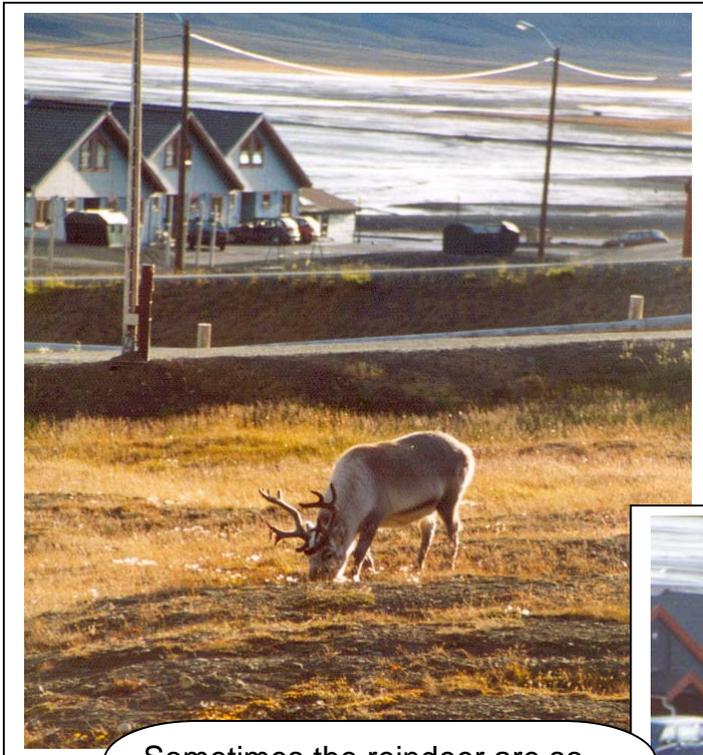
I have a question for you:  
Trees do not grow here but I am standing on a big log. How do you think it got here?

# Animals In The Arctic - The Reindeer

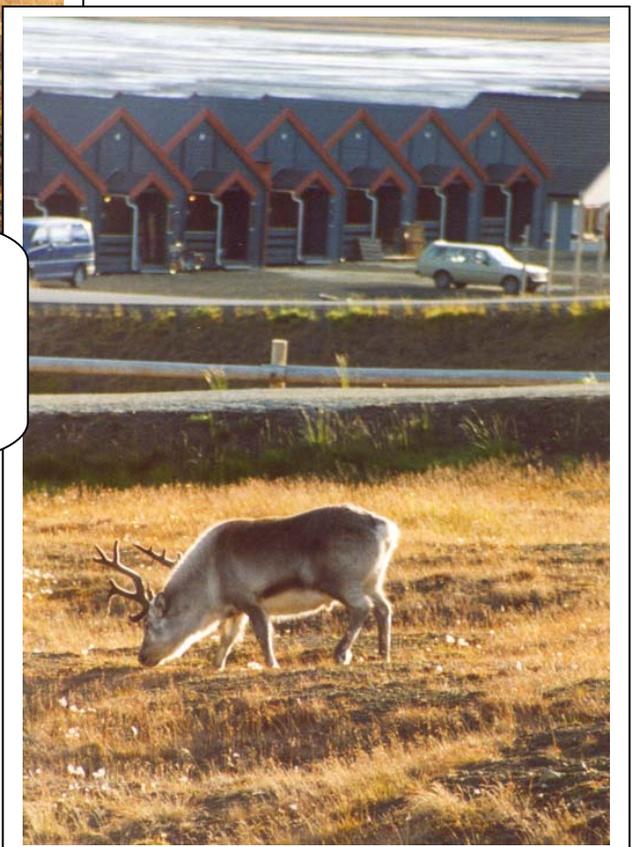
Reindeer survive well in the Arctic. They are able to keep out the cold with their thick fur coats.



In Longyearbyen you can see reindeer walking in the street. They are looking for food. This reindeer is trying to find some grass to eat. Can you see the houses and cars?



Sometimes the reindeer are so hungry they eat all the flowers and plants in people's gardens. How would you feel about a reindeer eating up your garden?



# Animals In The Arctic - The Polar Bear



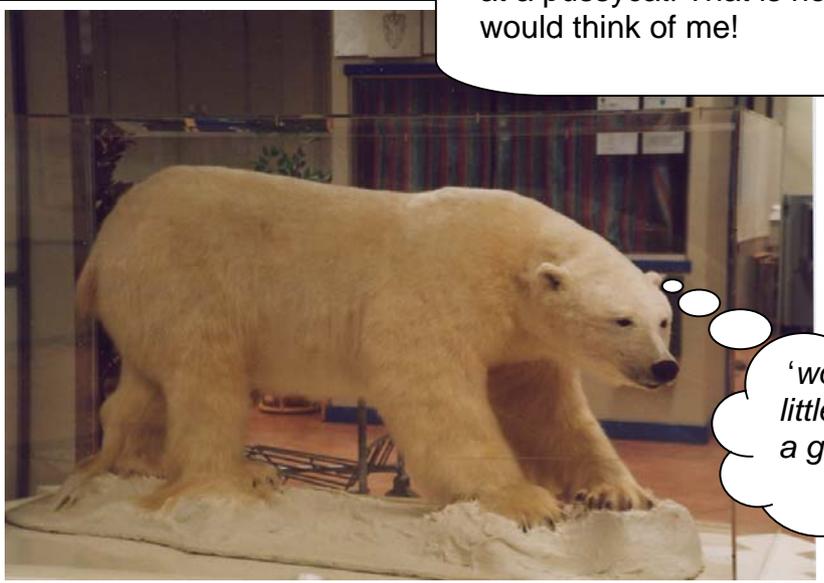
The Polar Bear is the most famous Arctic animal. Polar bears are very good hunters. They eat seals and other animals.



They sometimes come into **Longyearbyen** or even into the camp looking for food. We had to watch out for Polar Bears as they can be dangerous.



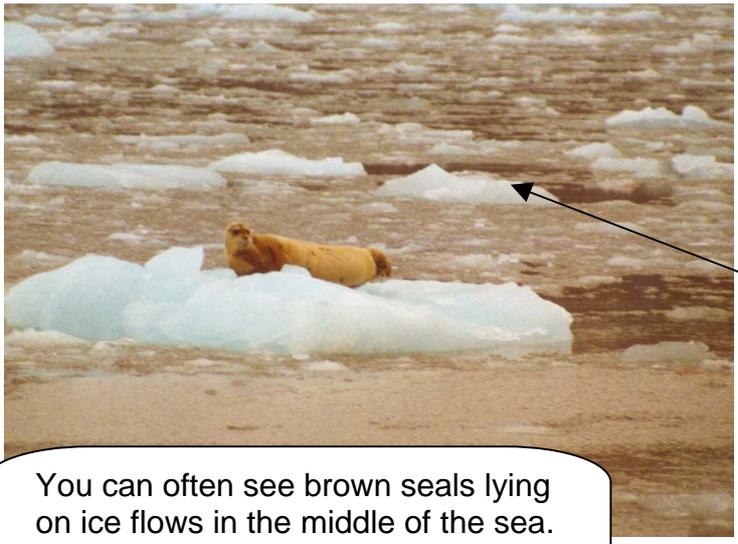
I may be a bear but I am little and friendly. Think of how a tiger would look at a pussycat. That is how a polar bear would think of me!



*'would that little bear make a good meal?'*



# Animals In The Arctic - The Seal



You can often see brown seals lying on ice flows in the middle of the sea. They don't get cold because their bodies are covered in a thick layer of fat.

These are called **ice flows**. They are like mini ice bergs.



The fat is called **blubber**. I always find this name very funny – I think it's because it has so many '**b**'s. You try saying it.



The brown seals feed on fish. They have to watch out for whales and polar bears as they can be eaten by them!

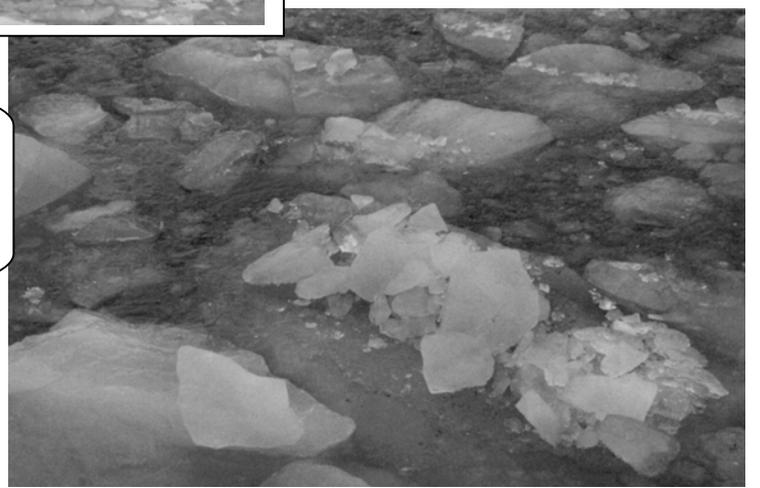


How many other brown seals you can see?

# A Sea That Freezes



As it gets colder even the sea begins to freeze. It has to be very cold for this to happen.



Soon the ice will be so thick you can walk on it.



Sometimes funny shapes appear. Look at these shapes – what do you think they look like?



Did you get it right?  
Pancakes of course!



## A Glacier - Ice That Moves

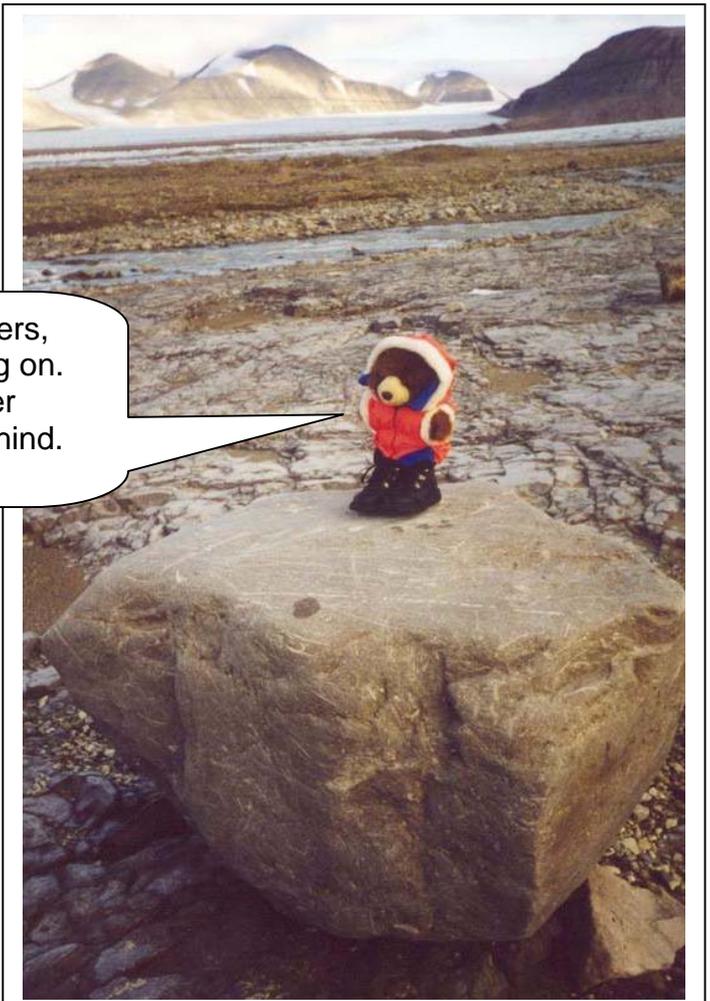


This is a **glacier**. It is a big sheet of ice that moves slowly over the land. As it moves it covers everything in its way.

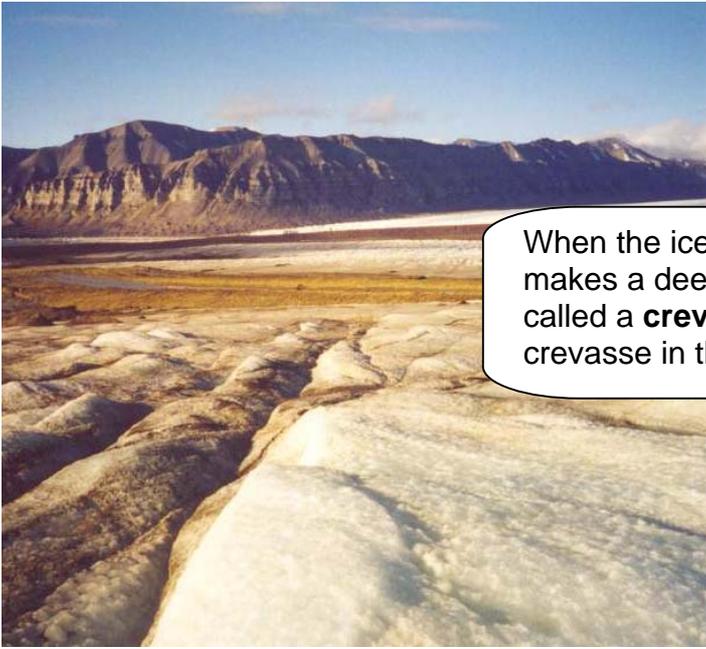
To say glacier - say the  
**a** as in **hat**  
**gla** -see - ur

A glacier can push big boulders,  
look at this one I am standing on.  
When it gets warm the glacier  
melts leaving the boulder behind.

Can you see other boulders  
in the picture?  
Do you know another word  
for boulder?



# More About Glaciers



When the ice moves it sometimes makes a deep crack. This crack is called a **crevasse**. Can you see a crevasse in the picture?



You say the word **Crevasse** like this:  
**Kre-va-ss**  
(Say the **a** as in **cat**)



If you fall into a crevasse you can be very badly injured. We had to learn how to rescue someone from a crevasse.



This is very scary

I think she is very brave.



Here is my friend Sooz being pulled out of a crevasse. She was glad it was only a practice. She said that it was very scary.



Can you see how deep it is? Sometimes you cannot see the bottom of the crevasse.

# The Northern Lights



One night in November the sky was full of colour. Everyone went Oooh and Aaah. It was like watching a free firework show.

This is known as the **Northern Lights**. The sky is coloured green and yellow. It is a beautiful sight.



You may have seen the Northern Lights in the **Snowman** film. It was when the snowmen were dancing.



Can you make a drawing of the Northern Lights?



Thanks for joining me on my Arctic adventure. I had a **fantastic** time. I hope you enjoyed seeing my pictures and hearing all about it.

Bye, bye everyone.  
See you soon!

Thanks to the Cape Farewell Expedition Team, The Norwegian Tourist Board and Anna Gunby for the use of their photographs

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