

Name _____

Date _____

Due Friday, 11/3

Antarctica



Read the paragraph for background information. Then use the map to answer the questions.

Did you know? There is very little life on Antarctica. Only a few primitive plants and insects live on the ice. However, the water that surrounds it is rich in plant and animal life. All of this region south of 60°S is protected under a treaty that preserves the continent for non-military scientific purposes. Plant and animal fossils found on the continent indicate that it was not always covered in ice. At one point it supported mammals, marsupials, trees, and other plants.

1. Why aren't there any cities listed on the continent?

2. Where do the meridians meet? _____
3. Which special line of latitude is at about 66.5°S? _____
4. Is the greater portion of Antarctica in the Eastern Hemisphere or the Western Hemisphere? _____
5. If you wanted to take a sled to the South Pole, what might be the best place to land? Explain.

6. Approximately how far is it from the southern coast of Roosevelt Island to the South Pole? _____
7. What is the approximate location in latitude and longitude of Berkner Island? _____
8. Which mountain range divides the continent into east and west Antarctica? How do you think it got its name?

9. Meridians are numbered from 0° to 180° and back. Only one meridian has the same measurement in the hemispheres through which it travels. The answer is not printed on the map, but there are plenty of clues. Can you identify it? _____
10. If you land at Marie Byrd Land and you take your dog sleds to the South Pole, then continue on to a waiting ship at Enderby Land, in what direction have you traveled?

ANTARCTICA

