



Modern Explorers

Felicity Aston

Felicity Aston is an English explorer. Felicity explores the polar regions. The polar regions are the North and South Poles. The North Pole is at the very top of the Earth. The South Pole is at the very bottom. It is very cold in the polar regions.

In 2012, Felicity skied across Antarctica. She was the first woman to do this alone. She was the first ever person to do it without power. She just used her muscles. It took Felicity 59 days. This was a world record!

VIPERS QUESTIONS

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Which places are known as the polar regions?

R

What is the weather like in the polar regions?

Ranulph Fiennes

Ranulph Fiennes is a British explorer. He has led lots of expeditions. Ranulph travelled around the world from pole to pole. He was the first person to do this! He was also the first person to walk across the whole of Antarctica!

In 2000, Ranulph explored the North Pole. He got very bad frostbite on his left hand. The ends of his fingers froze. The skin and muscle died. They were very painful. Ranulph couldn't wait for an operation. He cut the ends of his fingers off himself! Ouch!

In 2004, Ranulph climbed Mount Kilimanjaro. In 2009, he climbed Mount Everest. This is part of an ongoing challenge. It's called the Global Reach Challenge. It's to cross



both poles and climb the world's highest mountains. He has already crossed both poles. Now he has to climb all the highest mountains. Ranulph wants to be the first person to complete this.

VIPERS QUESTIONS

E What happened to Ranulph's left hand?

E What does Ranulph have to do to complete the Global Reach Challenge?

Ann Bancroft

Ann Bancroft is an American explorer. She has explored the North Pole. She got there on foot and by sled. She was the first woman to do that. She also led a team of women to the South Pole. They were the first women's team to get there on skis. This also made Ann the first woman to have stood at both poles.

Ann likes to explore the water as well. She wants to help people protect the waterways. She wants to show how important it is to keep our water clean.

VIPERS QUESTIONS

R Where else apart from the polar regions does Ann like to explore?

S Where did all 3 of the explorers explore?