

Hot Spots and Other Extreme Places to Live (pages 12–19)

Shirin Yim Bridges

Text Outline

Children read about the Afar people and living in the Danakil Depression – one of the hottest places on Earth. The children will consider why salt is so important to the Afar people and make comparisons between living in the Danakil Depression and living in the Arctic Circle – one of the coldest places on Earth.

Day 1	Activity	Comprehension Strategies
	Children familiarise themselves with the following words by completing the activities in their workbooks: tornado, planet, lava, evaporation	Clarifying
Day 2	Activity	Comprehension Strategies
	Children pre-read the text for the week's work (either independently, in pairs, or by having the text read to them by a TA or using the eBook narration). Using their workbooks, children write their thoughts about the three key questions and generate their own questions. The three key questions are:  In what ways are the Danakil Depression and the Arctic Circle similar or different places to live?  Why is salt like gold to the Afar people?  Would you prefer to live in the Danakil Depression or the Arctic Circle? Give reasons for your answer.	Summarising Connecting Activating Prior Knowledge Questioning
Day 3	Teacher discussion: see reverse of card.	
Day 4	Activity	Comprehension Strategies
	In pairs, children revisit the questions discussed on Day 3 and reflect on how their thinking has developed by writing in their workbooks. The prompt for their notes is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In what ways are the Arctic Circle and the Danakil Depression similar or different? Use the table to compare the two places. Draw or write your thoughts. 	Connecting Summarising
Day 5	Activity	Comprehension Strategies
	Children complete a writing activity in their workbooks. Children imagine they are interviewing an Afar child about living in the Danakil Depression and write the three questions they would ask. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support: Children will be given a question word bank. Extend: Children will be asked to provide five questions. 	Visualising Questioning

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Year 3, Autumn Term, Week 5

Day 3

Summarising	
Ask one child to summarise the text. Position your index fingers in the air and tell the child that by the time your fingers meet they need to have told you the most important details of the text. Once the child has finished, ask the other children if anything was missed, or if there's anything they'd like to expand on.	
Clarifying	
Ask children if there were any words they found confusing while reading and help to clarify these words for the children by asking questions. For example: <i>What does the word "region" mean? Can you give me a sentence that includes the word "mine"? Does the word "mine" have more than one meaning? What does it mean in this context, and what clues are there in the text?</i>	
👁️ Looking Question	Comprehension Strategies to Observe
<p>In what ways are the Danakil Depression and the Arctic Circle similar or different places to live?</p> <p>Questions to develop dialogue further:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the same? • What resources are important to the people? • How do the people live? 	<p>Summarising: Can the children identify similarities?</p> <p>Connecting: Can children make connections between the two places?</p> <p>Summarising: Can children find key information in the text to identify the important resources and describe the way in which each group lives?</p>
Linked Resources on ActiveLearn Primary	
Use this resource to help children comprehend the text.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thermometer to discuss extreme temperatures 	
🔍 Clue Question	Comprehension Strategies to Observe
<p>Why is salt like gold to the Afar people?</p> <p>Questions to develop dialogue further:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do the Afar people mine salt? • What can salt be used for? • Is salt important to you? 	<p>Summarising: Can children find information in the text to describe what the Afar people do with salt?</p> <p>Connecting: Can children identify that the salt is like gold because it was used as money in the past and now is sold to earn money?</p> <p>Activating Prior Knowledge: Can children think of ways salt is used, and discuss whether or not it is important to them?</p>
❓ Thinking Question	Comprehension Strategies to Observe
<p>Would you prefer to live in the Danakil Depression or the Arctic Circle? Give reasons for your answer.</p> <p>Questions to develop dialogue further:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would be difficult about living in each place? • What would you miss? • What would you eat and drink? Where would you sleep? 	<p>Visualising: Can children give examples of what it would be like to live in these extreme places?</p> <p>Activating Prior Knowledge: Can children use the text and their knowledge about each place to give reasons for their choices?</p>