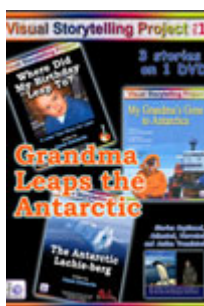


## Grandma Leaps The Antarctic - Auslan DVD



Auslan signed DVD 'Grandma Leaps The Antarctic' is available through [Dymocks stores](#) and from [www.bilby.net](http://www.bilby.net). The three stories are suitable for mainstream primary students studying Antarctica but the DVD is especially relevant for hearing impaired students. 'Where Did My Birthday Leap To?' has numeracy relevance, explaining leap year concepts for young students. Teachers' Notes from [www.bilby.net](http://www.bilby.net).

### **Bilby Publishing & Consulting**

[www.bilby.net](http://www.bilby.net)

**There are three stories on this DVD, two of which relate to Antarctica.**

1. Where Did My Birthday Leap To?
2. My Grandma's Gone to Antarctica
3. The Antarctic Lachie-berg

Simple curriculum links and Antarctic activities follow but more detailed ones are available from [www.bilby.net](http://www.bilby.net)

### **Teachers' Notes: My Gran's Gone to Antarctica**

- Where the Idea Came From
- Curriculum Links: Mid Primary
- Useful Antarctic Sites
- Activities

#### **Where the Idea Came From..... 'My Gran's Gone to Antarctica'**

This story was written for my grandson Truman before I went on an Antarctic expedition as writer. I always write him a story for his birthday and for Christmas. I was to be away for Christmas so this was his gift.

Because the previous voyage of the polar ship got stuck in the ice, we didn't leave Hobart until Jan 30th, and unexpectedly I was still home in Melbourne for Christmas Day. I gave him the story anyway, although the Antarctic photos were added later.

#### **Curriculum Links: Mid Primary**

Themes within 'My Gran's Gone to Antarctica'

- Family relationships across generations
- Celebrations
- Families keeping in touch via technology
- Remote family strategies
- Wildlife
- Antarctic expeditions
- Coping with change
- Journeys

- Preparation for working in Antarctica

Integrated studies mean that Antarctica can be studied across key learning areas and tied to learning outcomes. Problem-solving, scientific facts, eco-awareness and language cross the subject areas of English, Science, SOSE, Environment, Technology and Art.

Specifically:

Maths: working out distances, times and navigation

Geography: location of Antarctica and differences from the Arctic

Environment: 24 hour dark or light, icebergs, wildlife, weather, workstyles of 'boffins' and 'tradies'.

S.O.S.E. How families keep in touch when parent works away from home. Festivals like Christmas and birthdays. Gifts.

English: family e-mails, and writing stories as gifts for special occasions

Music: compiling favourites in various technology

Technology: making a digital portfolio of photos and e-mails. Recording messages on audio to send for special occasions e.g. Midwinter. Antarctic websites.

History: Early explorers

### Useful Antarctic Sites:

1. Check out the Antarctic Division Classroom website. You can 'see' the webcam of the base NOW! <http://www.classroomantarctica.aad.gov.au/>
2. Interlace is a brilliant site of Antarctic links, lesson plans and ideas to use in the classroom. Created by librarian of the year. <http://members.ozemail.com.au/~slacey/antarctica.htm>

### Activities:

#### 1. The Gift of Story

Write a personal story for one of your family for a special occasion. It might be for a birthday, an anniversary or to welcome someone into your family.

Digital photos in an e-story which you can e-mail.

Family photos with a line under each

A Family Tree story, explaining who is who.

For a grandparent...a day in my life and tell what you do.

My Family

#### 1. A Compliments ( Or Insults) Jar

Make a compliments jar. Think of 20 nice things you can say about a person.

Number 20 REAL compliments about the person.

e.g. You look after our dog well. Or I like the way you cook pizza.

Write each on sticky paper and wrap around a lolly and put in a jar.

Decorate. 'In moments when you are blue, have a compliment or two.'

#### 2. Finding Antarctica on the Map

Many people mix up the North and South Poles. Find the South Pole on your map.

#### 4. Look at the map of Antarctica. Find each of the Australian Bases.

- Casey
- Mawson
- Davis
- Macquarie Island

Which is closest to Hobart?

### **The Antarctic Lachier-berg**

Many schools are studying Antarctica as a unit and because of the polar iceberg setting this story can link to technology such as Antarctic navigation, mapping and GPS, so it can be used across curricula. It is specifically relevant to:

**Environment:** Icebergs, oceans, global warming, transport and Antarctic workstyles on bases and expeditions. Effect of cold and remoteness on humans physically and psychologically.

**Science:** biology, meteorology, polar medicine, food preparation in polar conditions, pilots, 'boffins' occupations e.g. studying ele-seals, comm.-god in charge of communications and 'tradies' jobs e.g. dieso, barge master, chippie, plumber, sparkie (electrician)

**Maths:** navigation, time zones and transport times, mapping, meteorology, calculating research results e.g. counting penguin/wildlife colonies, recording temperatures, recording 'birddo' sighting, estimating & projections of food requirements for wildlife and humans on bases.

**Technology:** e-mail, satellite links, GPS, scientific jobs in Antarctica and remote communications.

**English:** communicating with family via email and digital photos. Linguistics and where words originate. Antarctic Dictionary which has origins of words such as 'snotsicle' or even 'Frozen Chosen', who are those chosen to work in Antarctica.

**S.O.S.E.** Living in confined spaces, work and impact of weather via 24 hour light or darkness. Celebrations and survival skills like a sense of humour.

Include varied media, so that the format or technology becomes relevant as well as the Antarctic content. For example, using a playscript requires rehearsal, perhaps research into the character, performance and the audience also gain. Fact, fiction, Auslan signed DVD, script, picture book, electronic book, Brailled text and audio are all varied formats which students can explore.

### **Activities:**

#### 1. 'My Icy Antarctic Story'

An iceberg isn't a person, but it is a character in this 'Lachieberg' story.

When the major character is not a person, but an iceberg, that's a challenge to write and to perform.

Write your story about an Antarctic character who is NOT a (human) person.

You may choose to write it as an 'I' story or in some other way.

Find out facts first.

Suggestions are:

- Krill
- Blizz(Blizzard)
- Bergie Bits (small icebergs)

- Aurora Australis (Southern Lights)
- Polar ship
- Helicopter (chopper) who usually travel in pairs for safety.
- Albatross
- Ele-seal
- Adelie Penguin
- Quad ( All Terrain Vehicle)

2. Berg City: Naming Rights (Role playing game to help students understand the process of naming geographic features.)

Often streets in new areas are named after the family of the property developer.

Check the names of your local streets. Why was your street named that?

The 'Lachieberg' was named after Lachie, a real boy.

Usually icebergs are named after grid references on the map and are called names like B1 and C3. Imagine if an iceberg were to be named after you? What would you like it to be called?

Check the map of Antarctica and choose three places e.g. bases, (Wilkes, Casey, Mawson, Davis, Macquarie Island, or a sea etc Who were each named after? Find out three facts about that person.

3. All-White Antarctic Meal

Launceston Library launched one of my Antarctic stories with an All-white meal.

Potatoes, icecream, fish, whitebread sandwiches, popcorn and milk!

Why don't you have a mock-book launch for an Antarctic title you enjoy?

Check [www.bilby.net](http://www.bilby.net) for Auslan signed DVDs and further activities and resources.