

Date: 2007 Workshop

Title of Project: Crossing South Georgia Island

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School: Woodland Middle School, Cd' A

Target Grade Level: 6-8 grades (depending on reading levels)

Objective: TLW use a topographical map of South Georgia Island to identify a passable route for Shackleton's journey.

Materials: Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World
Topo map of South Georgia Island

Summary:

Students will be reading Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World. When Shackleton and his 3 comrades arrive at South Georgia Island after traveling hundreds of miles in a 26 foot boat, they face the formidable Southern Alps. They must cross over the snow-covered terrain to find rescue at a Norwegian whaling station. Before Shackleton and his men embark on their journey, the students are presented with a topo map and the question: How should Shackleton and his men proceed for the safest and surest route to the whaling station?

Students gather in groups of 3-4 to analyze their map of South Georgia Island. Students make observations about the landscape, including geographical features. They will plan their route, discussing possible options and considering all scenarios. Students trace their chosen route on the map.

Students continue reading the story to discover how Shackleton's journey transpired. They compare their routes to the various routes attempted by the men. Groups discuss their reasons for choosing their routes.