



Fourth Grade

ELA

GRADE 4 ELA ACTIVITY 3 – ADVENTURES BY LAND, AIR AND WATER

A video lesson of a Knox County 4th grade teacher that accompanies this text is available on KCS YouTube Channel and KCS TV.



In this text, your child will be looking for specific clues about:

TOPIC: Adventures by Land, Air and Water

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: What makes an adventure?

READING THE TEXT: *A Man of Persistence*

- You may choose to take turns reading the text with your child, read the text at the same time, or have your child read independently.

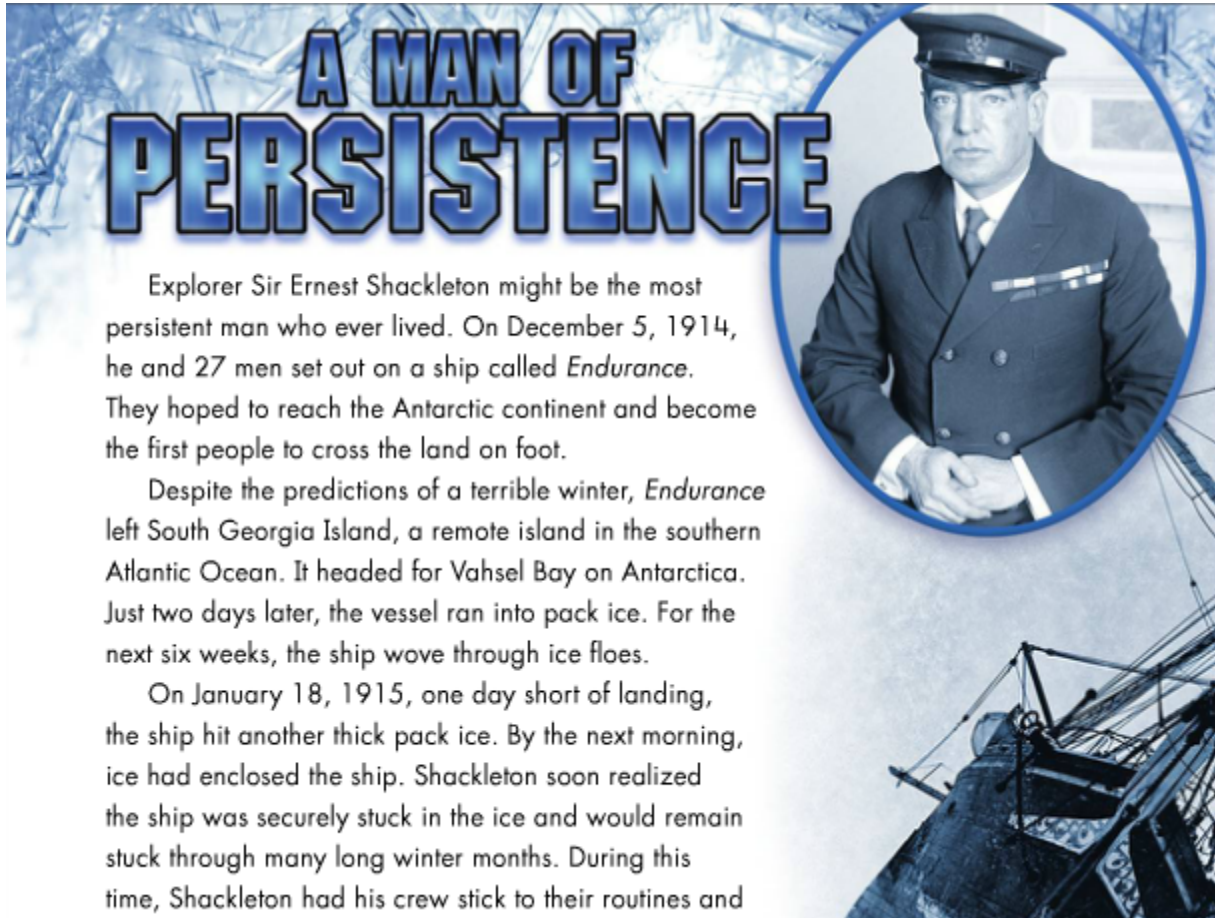
Prompt: Explain why *A Man of Persistence* is a good title for this passage. Include evidence from the text about what happened and why. (4.RI.KID.3)

Exemplar:

A Man of Persistence is an excellent title for this passage. Throughout the text, Sir Ernest Shackleton shows great persistence in his adventure. First, he and his crew persisted and went on with their expedition to cross Antarctica on foot even though harsh weather conditions were predicted. Since the ship was named *Endurance*, they thought their ship could withstand any dangers. While on their journey, they ran into many extreme and dangerous situations but persevered. For example, their ship sank due to pressure from the ice enclosing the ship. They had to camp out on the ice in Antarctica for months! After waiting for months, the ice floes began to break, so they boarded lifeboats bound for Elephant Island. Here, they were met with more challenges as the island was too remote for the men to be rescued. Refusing to give up, six crew members, including Shackleton, traveled back to South Georgia Island on lifeboats to find people to rescue the crew. Though they reached South Georgia Island, they were on the side without civilization. Three of those men walked twenty-two miles to the whaling station. During all of these challenges, Shackleton persevered so the crew could be rescued. Because Shackleton was a man of persistence, none of the crew members died during this dangerous adventure. He was truly a persistent leader in times of doubt and uncertainty.

EXTENSION IDEAS:

- Would you consider this adventure a success or failure? Write an opinion essay and support your opinion with reasons and evidence.
- Research more about Sir Ernest Shackleton
 - Create an informational brochure about the expedition and historical events
 - Include timelines and maps
- In your opinion, should the title have been *Men of Persistence* instead of *A Man of Persistence*? Use evidence from the text to support your opinion.



A MAN OF PERSISTENCE

Explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton might be the most persistent man who ever lived. On December 5, 1914, he and 27 men set out on a ship called *Endurance*. They hoped to reach the Antarctic continent and become the first people to cross the land on foot.

Despite the predictions of a terrible winter, *Endurance* left South Georgia Island, a remote island in the southern Atlantic Ocean. It headed for Vahsel Bay on Antarctica. Just two days later, the vessel ran into pack ice. For the next six weeks, the ship wove through ice floes.

On January 18, 1915, one day short of landing, the ship hit another thick pack ice. By the next morning, ice had enclosed the ship. Shackleton soon realized the ship was securely stuck in the ice and would remain stuck through many long winter months. During this time, Shackleton had his crew stick to their routines and

exercise the sled dogs they had brought with them.

Ten months later, the crew still remained on board. In October 1915, pressure from the ice began to damage the ship, and it began slowly sinking. Shackleton and his crew abandoned the ship and made camp on the surrounding ice. On November 21, 1915, *Endurance* sank completely.

The crew camped on the ice for several months, and in April 1916, the ice floe broke in half, causing the crew to flee in



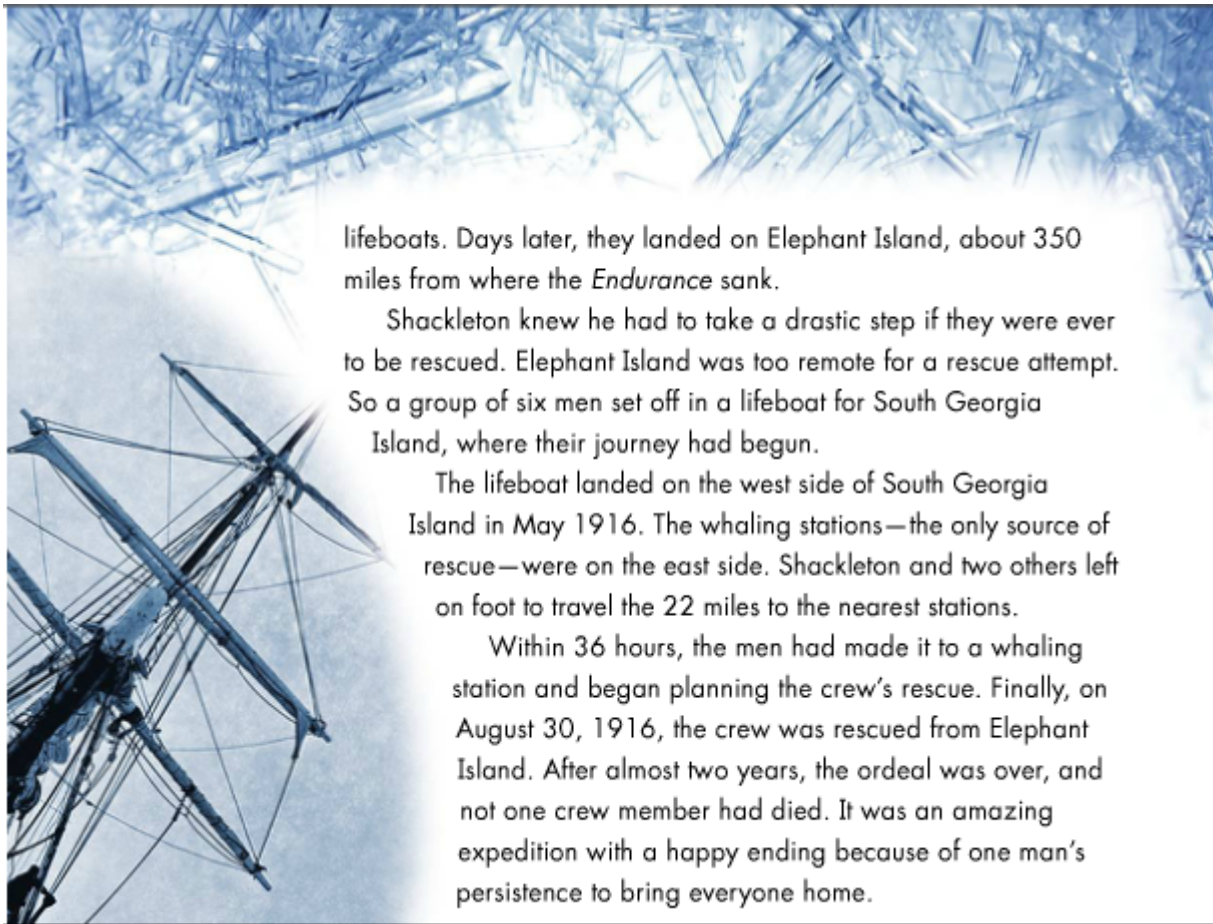
December 5, 1914
Endurance sets sail.

January 18, 1915
Endurance stranded in ice.

October 1915
Crew abandons ship.

November 21, 1915
Endurance sinks.

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lifeboats. Days later, they landed on Elephant Island, about 350 miles from where the *Endurance* sank.

Shackleton knew he had to take a drastic step if they were ever to be rescued. Elephant Island was too remote for a rescue attempt. So a group of six men set off in a lifeboat for South Georgia Island, where their journey had begun.

The lifeboat landed on the west side of South Georgia Island in May 1916. The whaling stations—the only source of rescue—were on the east side. Shackleton and two others left on foot to travel the 22 miles to the nearest stations.

Within 36 hours, the men had made it to a whaling station and began planning the crew's rescue. Finally, on August 30, 1916, the crew was rescued from Elephant Island. After almost two years, the ordeal was over, and not one crew member had died. It was an amazing expedition with a happy ending because of one man's persistence to bring everyone home.

SLEUTH WORK

Gather Evidence Shackleton was a persistent man. Write three details from the text that support this statement.

Ask Questions If you could talk to Sir Shackleton about the decisions he made, what three questions would you ask?

Make Your Case Which part of the expedition of the *Endurance* do you think would have been the most difficult? Support your opinion with evidence from the text.

April 1916

Crew flees in lifeboats. Some settle on Elephant Island. Others head to South Georgia Island to get help.

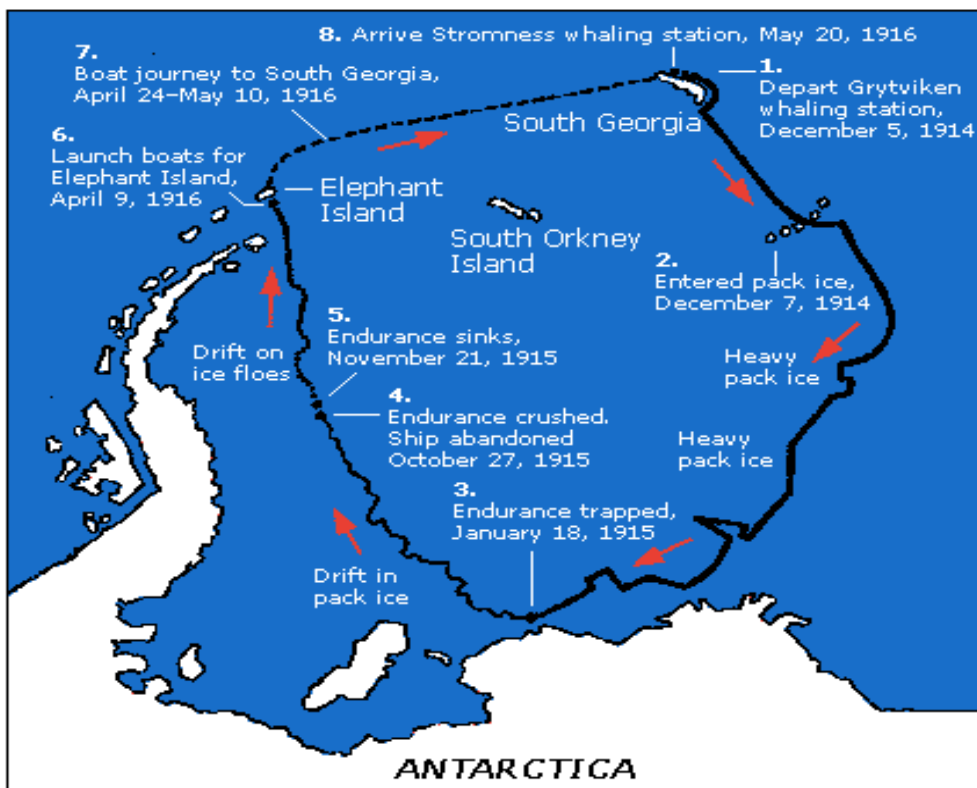
May 1916

Small crew lands on South Georgia Island.

August 30, 1916

All crew members rescued from Elephant Island.

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ELEMENTARY READING ACTIVITY 3

Handouts can be found under the ***Student Resource Tab*** on The Knox County Schools website - www.knoxschools.org

KCS  **home**
Summer Edition



1. Turn on closed captions, if available.



2. Adjust the playback speed to slow down the video.



3. Consider watching short clips then pause, listen, and watch again.



4. Ask someone in your home to watch the video with you. Stop frequently and talk to your partner about what you heard and understood.

If this video
is hard to
understand:

ADVENTURES BY LAND, AIR, AND WATER

ADVENTURE

ad - toward **vent** - come **(t)ure** - action of

Definition: *an unusual and exciting, typically hazardous, experience or activity*

KNOWLEDGE BUILDING

- **What makes an adventure?**
- **Activity 1: Are You Prepared for an Emergency?**
- **Activity 2: An Amazing Discovery**

WHAT MAKES AN ADVENTURE?

WORD COMPOSITION: Morphology

persistence

per –forward or through

sist –stand

-ence – state or condition

persist

persistent

persistence

WHAT MAKES AN ADVENTURE?

WORD COMPOSITION: Morphology

endurance

en- – in

dur – harsh

-ance – state or condition

endure

endurance

ADVENTURES BY LAND, AIR, AND WATER

- **Learning Target:** Read closely to explain why *A Man of Persistence* is a good title for this passage.
(4.RI.KID.3)
- **Success Criteria:** *How will you know you are successful?*
 - Include evidence of what happened
 - Include elaboration on what happened
 - Include topic specific vocabulary
 - Include a variety of sentences with correct punctuation and capitalization

LEARNING TARGET: Read closely to explain why *A Man of Persistence* is a good title.

A MAN OF PERSISTENCE

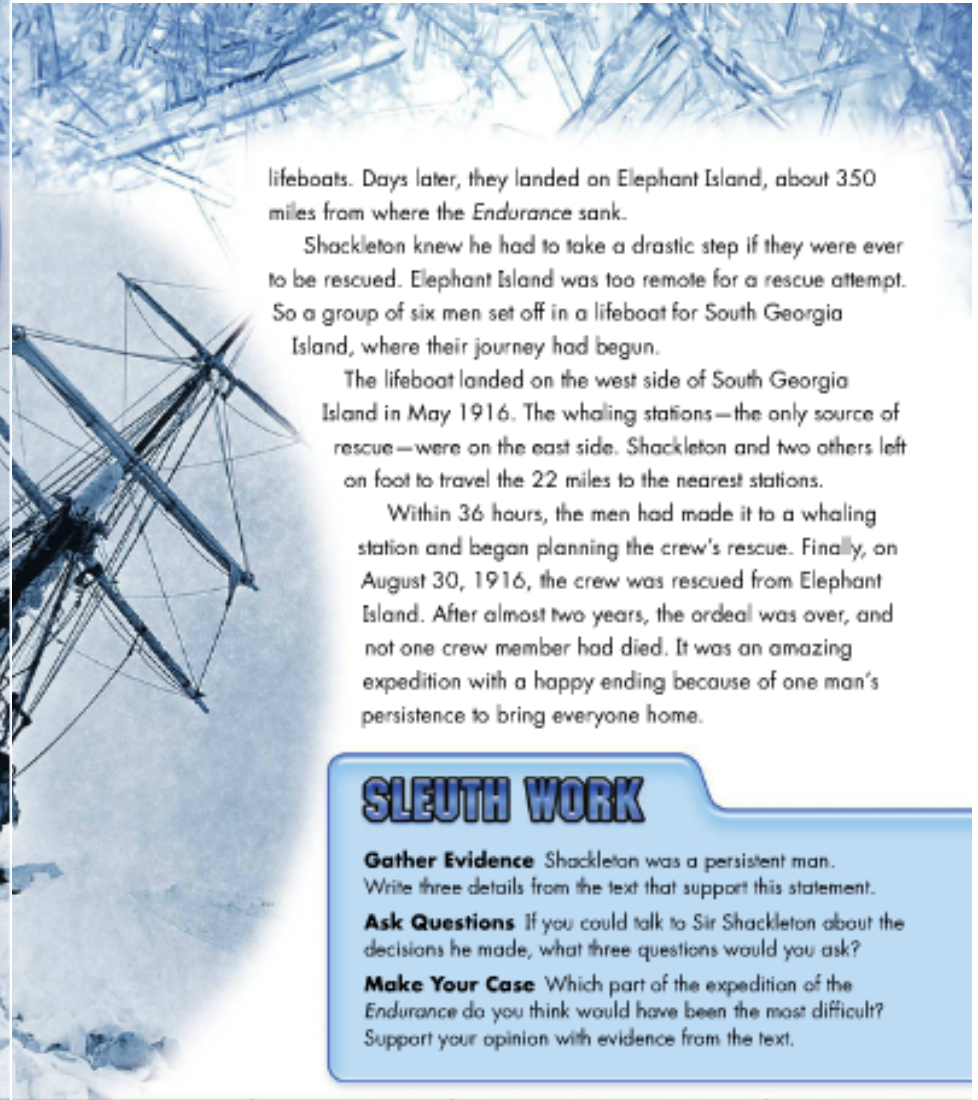
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Despite the predictions of a terrible winter, *Endurance* left South Georgia Island, a remote island in the southern Atlantic Ocean. It headed for Vahsel Bay on Antarctica. Just two days later, the vessel ran into pack ice. For the next six weeks, the ship wove through ice floes.

On January 18, 1915, one day short of landing, the ship hit another thick pack ice. By the next morning, ice had enclosed the ship. Shackleton soon realized the ship was securely stuck in the ice and would remain stuck through many long winter months. During this time, Shackleton had his crew stick to their routines and exercise the sled dogs they had brought with them.

Ten months later, the crew still remained on board. In October 1915, pressure from the ice began to damage the ship, and it began slowly sinking. Shackleton and his crew abandoned the ship and made camp on the surrounding ice. On November 21, 1915, *Endurance* sank completely.

The crew camped on the ice for several months, and in April 1916, the ice floe broke in half, causing the crew to flee in



lifeboats. Days later, they landed on Elephant Island, about 350 miles from where the *Endurance* sank.

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The lifeboat landed on the west side of South Georgia Island in May 1916. The whaling stations—the only source of rescue—were on the east side. Shackleton and two others left on foot to travel the 22 miles to the nearest stations.

Within 36 hours, the men had made it to a whaling station and began planning the crew's rescue. Finally, on August 30, 1916, the crew was rescued from Elephant Island. After almost two years, the ordeal was over, and not one crew member had died. It was an amazing expedition with a happy ending because of one man's persistence to bring everyone home.

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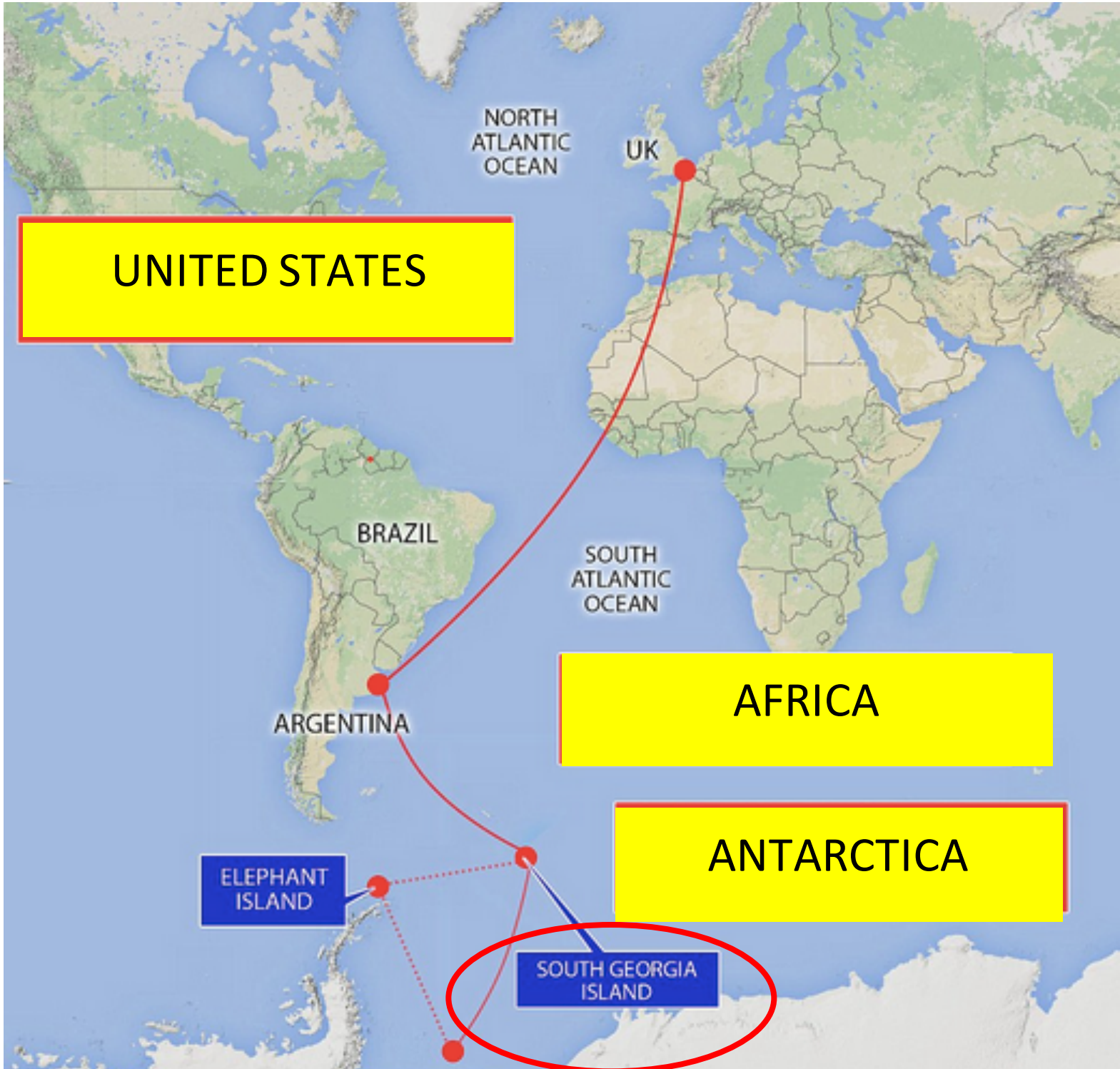
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UNITED STATES

AFRICA

ANTARCTICA

ELEPHANT ISLAND

SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND

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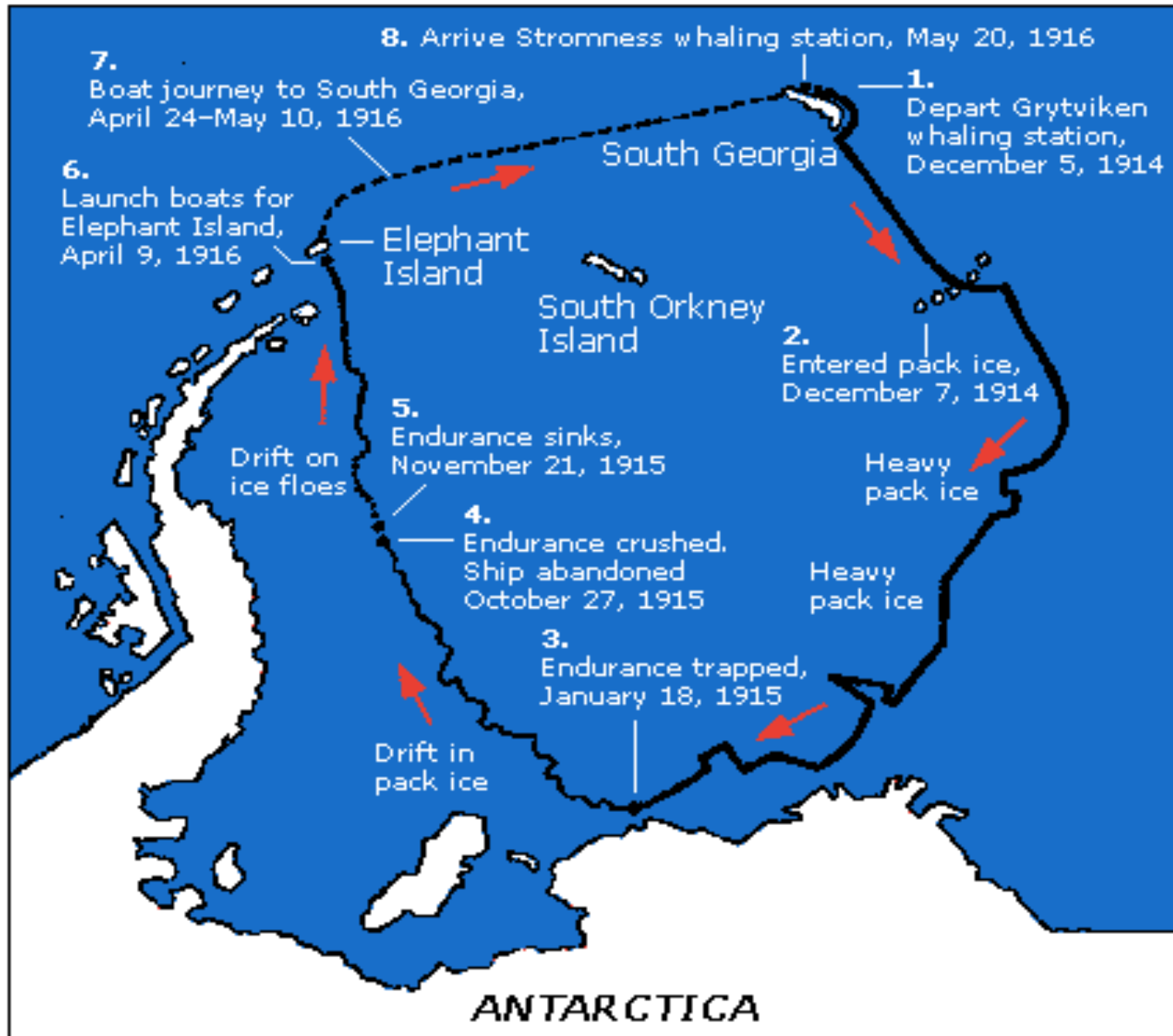
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QUICK WRITE

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RECAP



EXTENSION IDEAS

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ELEMENTARY READING
Madison Snyder
Bonny Kate Elementary

